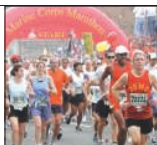


STARS AND STRIPES®

Runners hit road for the Marine Corps Marathon

Page 24



Allawi: Military action if Fallujah talks fail

Page 3



Evanescence singer lives up to the challenge

Page 18

Volume 2, No. 205 © EPSS 2004 MIDEAST EDITION MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2004



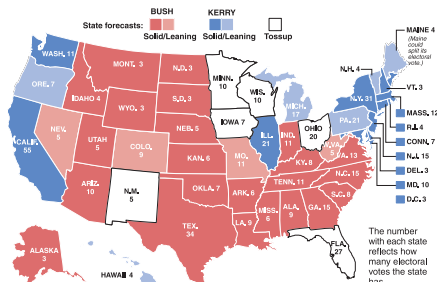
Volunteer election official Jack Harris directs an early voter Friday to an open polling station at the Alachua County administration building in Florida. To deal with expected increases in voter turnout, polling places throughout the state are open early.

AP

Race for president is down to the wire

Bush, Kerry campaigns focus on needed battleground states

Pages 8-9



The Washington Post

Six states with a total of 79 electoral votes are considered tossups and could determine the winner of the presidential election. Of the remaining states, six appear to be leaning toward Sen. John Kerry and four appear to be leaning toward President Bush.



Lane Quevedo, a supporter of President Bush's campaign, confronts Democratic supporters Saturday after a campaign rally with Vice President Dick Cheney in Nazareth, Pa.

AP

Remember to
thank your
Command
for today's
copy of Stars
and Stripes.



Your Stars and Stripes is
now printed and
delivered locally from
Kuwait, Iraq, and Qatar
giving you up-to-date
daily news, sports and
entertainment.

Without the assistance
of local commands,
your friends and fellow
soldiers would be
isolated without news
from home.

Contact
Stars and Stripes
circulation with
questions about
delivery at
49-6155-601-455
DSN: 349-8455

To contact a reporter
in the field, email
iraq@mail.estripes.osd.mil

STARS AND STRIPES
Your Hometown Newspaper

News Tracker ... What's new with old news

World

Turkey bombing: A Turkish court on Sunday charged an alleged Islamic militant with last week's bomb attack on a McDonald's restaurant in a northeastern city on the Black Sea, which left six people injured, a news agency reported.

Police arrested Yasin Hayal, 24, in Istanbul and brought him to the northeastern city of Trabzon where they claim he set off an explosion at the entrance of the McDonald's restaurant last Sunday.

The Anadolu news agency reported that Hayal told police he carried out the bombing "to punish the United States and its collaborators."

Liberia disarmament: Armed U.N. troops manned checkpoints and arrested dozens of men Sunday in an at-times bloody conclusion to a nationwide disarmament program in Liberia, days after a burst of violence in the war-battered West African nation.

In one neighborhood in Monrovia, about 80 men and boys — their ragged clothes bloodstained and wounds bleeding from what they said was the violence of their arrests — lay on the ground surrounded by U.N. Ghanaian and Nigerian peacekeepers after one of several U.N. raids.

Sri Lanka peace talks: Tamil Tiger rebels, postponed by a day after meeting with a top Japanese peace envoy who is pushing for a revival of peace talks between the guerrillas and Sri Lanka's government, officials said Sunday.

Yasushi Akashi has met Sri Lankan leaders, including President Chandrika Kumaratunga, during his weeklong visit here that began Wednesday. He was scheduled to meet rebel leaders on Sunday, but the meeting was rescheduled for Monday.

China mine deaths: A sudden burst of poisonous gas in a coal mine in northeast China killed 15 miners, the government said, days after the death toll in another accident rose to 141.

The rush of gas occurred Saturday at the Xilutun Mine in Fushun, a city in Liaoning province, when 50 miners were working underground, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

EU constitution: Pope John Paul II on Sunday hailed the signing of the European Union's proposed constitution as a "highly significant moment" in European integration, and insisted Christian values will be fundamental for Europe's future.

The Vatican had called for a mention of Europe's Judeo-Christian heritage in the preamble of the bloc's first constitution, but the appeal was rejected and no direct reference was included in the final text. The constitution was signed Friday during a solemn ceremony on the Capitoline Hill in Rome.

Anti-Semitic vandals: Vandals scrawled swastikas and "SS" initials on 88 Jewish tombstones in eastern France, an anti-Semitic attack that President Jacques Chirac on Saturday called "intolerable."

The inscriptions were discovered Saturday in the Jewish cemetery in Brumath, 10 miles north of Strasbourg near the French-German border, authorities said.

Chirac condemned "this intolerable act with the greatest firmness," his office said in a statement.

U.N. nuclear watchdog: The United Nations Atomic Energy Commission sent a group of inspectors to South Korea this week to inves-



Sudan Crisis: Rwandan soldiers are greeted by Nigerian peacekeeping soldiers, right, as they disembark from a U.S. Air Force C-130 cargo plane at the El Fasher airport on Saturday in Darfur as part of the African Union peacekeeping mission to Sudan. Dozens of armed Rwandan troops arrived in Sudan's troubled Darfur region Saturday to beef up a tiny African force seeking to stabilize the area. On Sunday, about 100 new troops joined those that arrived the day before to strengthen the protection force, which is protecting military observers of a shaky April 4 cease-fire agreement.

tigate Seoul's secret nuclear experiments, a South Korean official said Sunday.

Cho Chung-won, director-general at South Korea's Ministry of Science and Technology, said a five-member inspection team from the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency will begin a six-day visit on Tuesday.

States

Cardinal's funeral: The poor and the powerful came together Saturday for the funeral of Cardinal James A. Hickey, a champion of the poor who served 20 years as the archbishop of Washington.

Latin hymns echoed through the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception as religious and political leaders joined with ordinary people in observing the funeral Mass for Hickey. He died last Sunday at age 84.

Wrestling death case: A teen freed from prison this year after his life sentence for killing a young playmate was overturned received an extended probation period Friday after violating his curfew, and was freed once more.

Lionel Tate, now 17, was warned he would return to prison if he again violates his probation in the 1999 beating death of 6-year-old Tiffany Eunick.

In early September, deputies caught Tate blocks from his home at 2 a.m. and found he was carrying a pocketknife, both violations of his probation terms.

The report also said Jaro Amusements Inc., the company that owned and operated the ride, didn't keep maintenance records which could have pointed to problems with the two bolts, and didn't perform required maintenance — a claim which a company spokesman denied.

Business

US Airways strike: The union representing 6,000 US Airways reservation agents is asking members to authorize a strike if a bankruptcy judge voids the airline's contracts with its unions.

Chris Fox, president of Local 13302 of the Communications Workers of America, insisted that workers have no immediate strike plans and don't want to hurt the company. Employees have until Nov. 10 to return the strike ballots.

US Airways officials said that a strike is illegal under federal law — and that it could cost the airline valuable revenue during the travel holiday season.

War on terrorism

Guantanamo tribunals: Two men accused by the United States of being members of al-Qaida — including one who allegedly attended a camp with Osama bin Laden — declined to appear before a U.S. military review panel at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, an official said Saturday.

A 30-year-old detainee was accused of being an instructor at the al-Farooq terrorist training camp in Afghanistan, said Lt. Cmdr. Darryl Borgquist, spokesman for the Combatant Status Review Tribunals.

Another man accused of belonging to al-Qaida was allegedly at the al-Farooq camp when bin Laden reportedly was there between July 2001 and September of 2001, Borgquist said.

Blair's wife talks Gitmo: British Prime Minister Tony Blair's wife implicitly criticized President Bush in a talk at Harvard University, saying she supported a U.S. Supreme Court decision that dealt a blow to his policy on Guantanamo Bay detainees, a newspaper reported Sunday.

The prime minister, a close ally of Bush, has remained studiously neutral in the presidential race, and his wife, Cherie Booth, has generally avoided commenting on American politics.

But in a closed-door speech to about 100 people at Harvard, Booth praised a Supreme Court decision in a case brought by two Britons freed from Guantanamo, according to London's *The Mail* on Sunday.

Stories and Photos From The Associated Press

U.S. forces prepare for Fallujah assault

Iraq's prime minister vows that elections will remain on schedule

BY SAMEER N. YACUB
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq's interim prime minister said Sunday that efforts to peacefully resolve the conflict in Fallujah have entered their final phase and warned that "our patience is running thin," vowing to clear the city of militants who have carried out some of the bloodiest attacks in Iraq.

Ayad Allawi's strong comments signaled that the start may be near for a major assault on Fallujah that U.S. forces have been preparing. Allawi warned there would likely be civilian casualties if an offensive takes place.

A brigade of fresh U.S. troops arriving in Baghdad will push the total U.S. troop presence in the Iraqi capital to around 40,000 by Monday, as planners prepare for the coming assault on insurgent hotspots to the west and the Iraqi elections in January.

U.S. commanders say Allawi will give the final order to launch the assault, which would aim to restore control to Sunni Muslim towns north and west of the capital ahead of Jan 31 elections.

As night fell in the Iraqi capital, the rumble of powerful explosions could be heard coming from the edge of the city. The cause of the explosions could not be determined.

Speaking to reporters in Baghdad, Allawi vowed that the elections, a key step in plans to move Iraq toward democracy "will take place on schedule." The country's deteriorating security situation has led to doubts that nationwide voting can take place in Iraq.

Allawi said there was no deadline for talks with Fallujah leaders aimed at finding a peaceful resolution. But he said if no deal is reached, "I have no choice but to secure a military solution."

"But I owe, owe it to the Iraqi people to defend them from the violence and the terrorists and insurgents."

"The terrorists and insurgents continue to use Fallujah and the Fallujah people as a shield for their murderous acts," Allawi said. "Some of the most incredible crimes have been committed in Fallujah and out of Fallujah by these terrorists."

Fallujah, west of Baghdad, is considered the strongest bastion of Sunni insurgents who have carried out a spiraling campaign of bombings, ambushes and kidnappings. Allawi's warning came after a particularly bloody day even by the standards of this conflict-ravaged country.

In all, at least 30 people died Saturday in politically motivated violence across Iraq — stark evidence of a security situation threatening to spiral out of control.

Among them were eight Marines killed by a car bomb near Fallujah.

Also, early Sunday, the Japanese government confirmed that the decapitated body of a young Asian male was that of Japanese hostage Shosuke Kobata, 24, said Japanese Foreign Minister Nobutaka Machimura.

Allawi said he had met with tribal leaders from the area Saturday and told them "the window for such peaceful settlement is closing."

Allawi also said authorities have arrested 167 Arab foreign fighters, who are in Iraq's custody.

In preparation for an offensive, hundreds of British troops have moved into an area south of Baghdad to free up American forces for operations west of Baghdad. British press reports said four mortar shells landed early Sunday at a British camp south of Fallujah. Two rockets also exploded at the perimeter of the airport in the southern city of Basra where the British contingent has its headquarters.



A U.S. Marine gestures during a patrol outside Fallujah, Iraq, Sunday. American forces are preparing for a major assault on Fallujah in an effort to restore control to a swathe of Sunni Muslim towns north and west of the capital ahead of crucial national elections due on Jan. 31.

There were no casualties or serious damage in either attack, British media reports said.

U.S. commanders have estimated that up to 5,000 Islamic militants, Saddam Hussein loyalists and common criminals are holed up in the insurgent bastion.

U.S. Marines carried out a three-week siege of Fallujah in April, but when hundreds of people were killed, the military was forced to back down. Insurgents have since tightened their grip on the city, and several other cities in the Sunni Triangle north and west of Baghdad have fallen under their sway.

For the second straight day, clashes erupted Sunday between U.S. forces and insurgents in the town of Ramadi, 70 miles west of Baghdad, leaving seven people

dead, according to hospital officials. On Saturday, U.S. forces pounded insurgent positions on the outskirts of Fallujah in some of the heaviest skirmishes in weeks.

Marines and guerrillas traded mortar and artillery fire, and U.S. jets bombed positions inside the city.

Later Sunday, an explosion hit a hotel in the northern Iraqi city of Tikrit killed 15 people, police and hospital officials said.

Dr. Hassan al-Juburi, director of the Tikrit Teaching Hospital, said the blast happened at 8:00 p.m. at the Sunbar Hotel, he said. Eight others were seriously wounded in the explosion, including two policemen. All the victims were Iraqi, he said.

Al-Juburi said he did not know what had caused the blast.

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Saturday, at least 1,120 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 848 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defense Department as of Friday. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is thirteen higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated Friday at 10 a.m. EDT.

The British military has reported 68 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 982 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 739 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers as of Friday.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ Eight Marines were killed in action Saturday in Anbar province. The Marines later reported that at least one was killed, but offered no further details.

The latest identification reported by the military:

■ Army Sgt. 1st Class Michael B. Bates Sr., 38, San Antonio, Texas, killed Thursday in Baghdad when an explosive detonated near his checkpoint; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 21st Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

New group claims responsibility for deadly car bombing

BY MAAMOUN YOUSSEF
The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — A previously unheard of militant group claimed responsibility Sunday for the car bombing a day earlier outside the Baghdad offices of Al-Arabiya TV that killed seven people, including five of the station's Iraqi employees.

The Jihad Martyr's Companies in Iraq claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement posted on an Islamic Web site known for carrying announcements by militant groups.

The statement accused the Saudi-owned, Dubai-based television network of "siding with America, the oppressor which kills Muslims and Arabs, occupies their lands and plunders their wealth."

It was impossible to verify the claim's authenticity, which followed Saturday's release of another Internet statement attributed to a militant group calling itself the "1920 Brigades" claiming responsibility for the attack. That statement was also unable to be authenticated. Al-Arabiya on Sunday aired a video statement showing four masked gunmen belonging to the similarly named "1920 Revolution Brigades" denying involvement in the attack.

The 1920 Revolution refers to the uprising against British military occupation, which historians consider the birth of Iraqi nationalism.

The new claim said insurgents targeted Al-Arabiya because it "portrayed the Americans as liberators" of Iraq and described Muslims controlling the station as "apostates and atheists because of their collaboration with the American infidels."

The statement also threatened other news outlets, saying "we will punish those who work with these news agencies and channels other than the one or we will kidnap them and slaughter them like sheep if they side with the infidel American occupiers ... or they call the mujahideen 'terrorists' as Al-Arabiya and others do."

Al-Arabiya chief executive Abdulrahman al-Rashed, an outspoken critic of Islamic militants and terror attacks, said Sunday that five of the seven people killed in the bombing were Iraqi employees of the station, including two women who performed domestic tasks at the devastated offices.

A man employed in a similar role, plus a male computer engineer and a security guard also died in the blast, al-Rashed said.

Al-Rashed said three Al-Arabiya journalists seriously injured in the attack were expected to be flown to Jordan on Monday for medical treatment.



A security guard walks through the rubble Sunday where Saturday's car bomb exploded outside the office of the Al-Arabiya television network in Baghdad. Seven people were killed and 19 injured, police and hospital officials said.



A U.S. Marine from the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment watches the area through his rifle scope during a raid in a residential section of Ramadi, Iraq.

Whether it's Bush or Kerry, uncertainty looms concerning U.S. troops in Iraq

BY KEN GUGGENHEIM
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For all the talk about Iraq in the presidential campaign, a crucial question largely has gone unanswered: What would it really take for either President Bush or a President John Kerry eventually to bring home U.S. troops? Both candidates in Tuesday's election say they are committed to defeating the insurgents, building an Iraqi force that can defend the country and putting Iraq on the road to democracy.

What is not clear is what either would do in terms of U.S. troops if those conditions were not achieved fully.

Could U.S. troops ever withdraw, if the insurgency were not crushed but only weakened? How good would Iraqi security forces have to be to be good enough to defend their country? Would it be enough to have a stable Iraqi government if it were elected by only part of the country? One question no candidate would want to touch is what would happen should the violence escalate. Could there come a point when the situation appeared hopeless, U.S. public opinion had turned against it and the president would have at least to consider a withdrawal or redeployment of U.S. forces? "No president wants to cut-and-run on purely good policy grounds, but all presidents realize that if you lose public support, you could be forced to do what you don't want to do," said James M. Lindsay of the Council on Foreign Relations.

The Bush administration has a standard answer to the question of how long U.S. troops would stay in Iraq: as long as necessary, and not a day longer.

As he repeated that last month in Cincinnati, Vice President Dick Cheney said the mission of the United States "is to get a democratically elected government in

See related stories
on Pages 8 and 9

place and get the Iraqis in a position to be able to provide for their own security."

Administration officials have been divided, though, about just how successful Iraqi elections in January have to be.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has said that if some parts of Iraq are inaccessible to voting, a partial vote would be better than none. Secretary of State Colin Powell has said the election will not be credible unless all Iraqis have the opportunity to vote.

As for securing Iraq, both Bush and Kerry expect "we will cobble together some kind of stability on the security and political front," said BatSheba N. Crocker of the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

"It will continue to be messy, probably, and it won't be a perfect scenario," she said. "But it may at least enable us to feel that if we started to pull out U.S. troops, the whole thing wouldn't fall apart."

Kerry has stressed the importance of helping Iraq build a democracy and protect itself, saying Bush's efforts have been inadequate. The Massachusetts senator has said he would secure more international help to ease the burden on the United States. His goal is to begin withdrawing U.S. forces within six months and complete the withdrawal within four years.

Yet Kerry's prospects for winning international backing are uncertain.

If public support for the U.S. presence in Iraq should fade, Kerry and Bush could face different pressures to stay firm or pull out.

Kerry's commitment to watch

he described as "the wrong war in the wrong place at the wrong time" is not as clear as Bush's, but any move to withdraw short of clear victory could lead to harsh criticism from Republicans, who are likely to keep control of both houses of Congress.

"Kerry will be just as constrained as Bush would be in terms of figuring out how to extricate U.S. forces," said Loren Thompson of the Lexington Institute think tank.

Bush's legacy will be tied closely to Iraq's future. Presumably that would make him more likely to stay the course but also could make him appear more credible—at least in Republican eyes—if he were to decide it was time for U.S. soldiers to leave.

Some Republicans have expressed discomfort with the prospect of a long-term U.S. nation-building effort in Iraq. "There is definitely sentiment among some Republicans to get out," said Thomas Donnelly of the American Enterprise Institute.

But, he added, "I don't think that would carry the day in a second Bush term."

The danger of an early withdrawal is that Iraq might fall into civil war or the kind of lawlessness that would allow terrorists to thrive.

"You can develop and embrace an exit strategy from Iraq, but what are the repercussions on the broader war against terrorism?" said Bruce Hoffman of the Rand Corp., another think tank.

Thomas Keeney, professor of strategic studies at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies, says the timing of a U.S. withdrawal might be somewhat out of the president's control. Iraqi leaders could face political pressure to ask U.S. troops to leave, he said.

"The ball is not in our court entirely. Maybe not even primarily," Keeney said.

1st ID spouses not surprised by longer tour

About 3,000 GIs will stay in Iraq to provide security for elections

BY RICK EMERT

Stars and Stripes

BAMBERG, Germany — Some 1st Infantry Division family members in Bamberg's Warner Barracks had mixed reactions Sunday over news that their soldiers may have to remain in Iraq through the Iraq elections.

A news story on the Department of Defense Web site said that about 3,000 1st ID soldiers would remain in Iraq to provide security during the country's elections in January.

About 3,500 soldiers from the 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division out of Fort Hood, Texas, also would remain, according to the Web site.

The 1st ID deployed to Iraq in February. The change will bring the deployment, which soldiers and families expected to be 10 months, to a full year, according to the DOD Web site.

Some spouses had not heard the news until they talked to Stars and Stripes about it, while others found out Saturday or Sunday through phone calls from their husbands.

None of the spouses Stars and Stripes talked to had been officially notified by the Army or the unit's Family Readiness Group of the change.

"It's just what we've got to do," said Anna Dietrich, whose husband is attached to the 82nd Engineer Battalion in Iraq.

"It's not that big of a surprise, really," she said.

Dietrich said she had heard earlier this year from her husband, Staff Sgt. Larry Dietrich, that the unit was expected to come home after only 10 months downrange.

"He told me not to get my hopes up then," Dietrich said. "The news is a disappointment, but we know that it is what

he has got to do."

Other spouses, like Rosetta DiMeglio, said even the 10-month deployment that 1st ID soldiers and families were counting on was too long.

"I just don't think it's right to extend them," said DiMeglio, whose husband, Master Sgt. Vincent DiMeglio of 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment, called her Sunday to break the news. "A year is too long. I've always thought this should be a six-month deployment. It's a long time to be separated."

Emily Daigle, whose husband is with the 1st Battalion, 33rd Field Artillery Regiment, called the news "unfair."

"You know when things like this happen, it's not only the soldiers who lose morale. Kids lose morale, too," she said.

Other spouses said that the extension earlier this year of the 1st Armored Division led them to believe the same would happen to the 1st ID.

"I had a hunch; I could feel it in my heart that something like this would happen," said Chris Watts. Her husband, Sgt. Thomas Watts is assigned to the 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment in Iraq.

"1st AD got extended, so I was sort of expecting this" Watts said.

Samantha Holley had an early warning of a possible extension while her husband, Spc. Kenneth Holley, of the 82nd Engineer Battalion, was home on leave two weeks ago.

"He told me that there was talk of this happening," Holley said. "I was expecting it. The unit told us in a meeting before the soldiers left not to be surprised if their return date changes."

E-mail Rick Emert at: emert@mail.estripes.osd.mil



Dietrich



Diegle



Watts



Holley

NATO weighs training options for Iraqi military

BY CHARLIE COON

Stars and Stripes

MONS, Belgium — The North Atlantic Treaty Organization could be heading for the Persian Gulf.

NATO is considering ways it can help train the new Iraqi military, at sites both inside and outside the war-torn country, as well as ways to equip it with weapons, vehicles and other gear.

The goal is to demonstrate that NATO supports a democratic, stable Iraq without actually joining the bloodshed.

Although member nations are being asked to send troops to Baghdad, their jobs would be to train Iraq's new military leaders and not engage in combat with insurgents.

"This plan is a training mission plan, not a combat plan," said Marine Gen. James L. Jones, commander of NATO's military arm, the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe.

"It has features of force protection that obviously have to be built in, because Iraq is a dangerous place."

The plan is working its way through NATO's military committee, so no time line has been set for raising the NATO flag in Baghdad, where the effort would be headquartered.

Jones estimated that the NATO force in Iraq would consist of up to 3,000 troops at the most, but could be as small as 300.

"It really depends on what the (member) nations decide to do," Jones said. "If they accept the plan in total, it would be one number. If they accept it in pieces and send it back (for modification) it would be another number."

Factors that would affect the NATO contribution in Iraq include:

- The level of training and duration of courses that NATO would provide. "Training is already going on and being conducted fairly massively by (multinational forces in Iraq)," Jones said. "We'd be contributing in our way by having ongoing training."

Jones: Heroin is Afghanistan's next big problem

The deposed Taliban and on-the-run al-Qaida can still cause problems but don't pose serious threats anymore in Afghanistan, according to Marine Gen. James L. Jones, commander of NATO's military arm.

So the country might soon be in shape to take on its next big problem: heroin. Afghanistan is reported to be the world's largest producer and exporter of opium, which is used to make heroin.

"The problem of narcotics has to be taken on, has to be resolved at some point," Jones said Thursday at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe in Mons, Belgium.

"The question is how, who does it, and when. There is great recognition that this is not a simple problem. It is not a simple case of poppy eradication as a solution."

Poppy, the plant that produces opium, flourishes in the northeast and southwest of the country. It's been a cash crop in Afghanistan for only a few decades, but NATO officials don't want to see the country become another Colombia, the South American nation that is defined by its cocaine production.

Opium grown in Afghanistan generates more than \$2 billion per year in illegal revenue, as much as the country's entire gross domestic product, according to International Security Assistance Forces in Kabul.

The business is operated and/or condoned by territorial "warlords" who hold much of the real power from region to region in Afghanistan.

Afghanistan has a newly elected president, Hamid Karzai, and is trying to schedule parliamentary elections for this spring. The drug problem is Afghanistan's top fix, Jones said. But NATO wants it done — Europe is a major customer of Afghanistan's heroin — and seems ready to help fix the problem.

"Karzai knows we have to resolve this," Jones said. "I think that (NATO's) discussion about Afghanistan is about to turn that corner. We'll see what comes out."

- The number of nations that donate training opportunities and facilities outside Iraq. "We know some (will) right now, but we don't know it all," he said.

- The number that would offer equipment for sale or donation. "I think it's possible that you could

The next meetings for alliance ministers are scheduled for February in Nice, France.

Banner day for Bosnia, status quo for Kosovo

On Dec. 2, NATO is scheduled to turn over to the European Union its peacekeeping mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It will be the first mission of action to be supervised by the union.

The new operation will be called Operation Althea. NATO will retain a 150-person headquarters in Sarajevo.

The United States had previously announced it would retain a small number of troops at a forward operating base in Tuzla, mostly for training purposes and to support NATO headquarters there, Jones said.

The new operation won't look much different, Jones said, except for NATO flags being switched to EU flags.

To the southeast of Bosnia, Kosovo is coming off a relatively peaceful election earlier in October. But the volatile mix of Serbs and Albanians requires NATO forces to stick around.

"The mission there is going to continue for some time into the future," Jones said.

"If the climate stays stable and we see good progress, perhaps in 2005 we can make some (troop reductions)."

NATO Response Force lauded after Olympics

The NATO Response Force, a mix of special operations troops from member nations, held a test run at this summer's Olympics in Greece.

The NRF troops were embedded with the Games' security task force.

Jones said he hoped the NRF troops will continue to train and be fully operational to

take on missions by 2006. The NRF was established in 2002.

Speaking of Mediterranean security, Operation Active Endeavor is about to become a little more active. The group, where seven NATO nations work together to patrol the Mediterranean, track black ships and occasionally boarding them, is scheduled to meet in November to refresh its counterterrorism efforts.

Jones 'not frustrated' by NATO's pace of progress

The time it takes to bring NATO nations on board with U.S.-led military coalitions in Afghanistan and Iraq is not frustrating NATO military leaders.

"I'm more used to the procedures and can be a little more patient than I was," Jones said. "We've got a good plan."

"I think people will be pleasantly surprised. It's not the military asking for the moon. We're asking for a very reasonable, modest number with which we can make a significant contribution, and we're hopeful it will be accepted."

Jones was referring to NATO members being asked to help train Iraqi officers and contribute equipment to the new army. NATO is also hoping that more nations contribute Provincial Reconstruction Teams in Afghanistan, which are used to establish government rule in the country's hinterlands.

"We have new energy in Afghanistan," Jones said. "The Afghan (PRT) plan was proposed in Munich (Germany) in February 2003. In less than a year, we got the mission resourced for Kabul (the capital)."

"We've done Stage 1 (of the PRT plan) in the north and had successful elections. Now we've poised to start Stage 2 and hopefully stages 3 and 4 after that. People could say this is slow. To me it is progress."

— Charlie Coon

E-mail Charlie Coon at: coon@mid.estripes.osd.mil

Exorbitant bills force officials to shut off cell phone long distance

BY WARD SANDERSON

Stars and Stripes

BAGHDAD — Authorities have shut off long-distance service for government-issued MCI mobile phones here, due to monthly bills as high as \$10,000 for one handset.

The Coalition Provisional Authority issued the phones last year for staff in the Green Zone without reliable phone access. The phones worked in Baghdad, but all operated as if in the United States, so even calling an Iraqi line had cost at least \$1.25 per minute. And individual organizations using the phones never received bills, leaving the impression that the phones were free.

The decision to cut the service was made by the State Department and implemented by the military.

"Unfortunately, control over the phones was a little lax," said Col. Evyn Planto, director of the Communications Support Office, Multinational Force Iraq.

"Now that we've got a more mature phone system, we're trying to get people to use their desktops."

Commercial long-distance calls aren't cheaper via desktop lines, but Planto said office-to-office or Dels calls certainly are. As it stands, the phones can now only reach others of the same type — unless Planto's office approves an upgrade.

Planto said callers grossly exceeded the government's budget for the phones, but declined to say by how much or disclose how many phones were in service. An MCI customer representative

said the problem was due to a "\$2 million bill."

"It was like, 'Where do these phones come from? It's like magic,'" Planto said of some customers. "Well, it's not magic."

Planto cited "sensitivities" in not disclosing further numbers, but said the problem came to a head when nationals of an undisclosed country repeatedly called home.

Despite the service just being cut in October, the decision to review the phone service was made in August.

"We knew it was going to happen sooner or later," said Lars Hanson, an MCI manager here. Planto's office is also trying to account for all the telephone. Some users took the handsets back to the United States with them, where they don't function.

Others gave them to other units or offices upon departing. That, combined with the fact that the government only received itemized billings following a two-month lag, made policing the system difficult.

Long-distance service can be restored once a request is submitted to Planto's office and the service is deemed necessary.

"They're filling out forms, and I review them," Planto said. "My job is to ensure people have communications, not to ensure people do not."

Nonetheless, Planto said some request forms are incomplete or contain smart-aleck answers as to why the service is required. He turns those down.

"Now," Planto said, "we have control of the phones."

E-mail Ward Sanderson at: sanderson@mid.estripes.osd.mil



WARD SANDERSON/Stars and Stripes

Thanks to outrageous bills to the U.S. government, the MCI cellular phones available to State Department, military personnel and allies no longer have long-distance access.

U.S. hopes to divide and conquer Iraq insurgency

BY BRADLEY GRAHAM
AND WALTER PINCUS
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Facing an entrenched insurgency in Iraq whose ranks have grown significantly over the past year, the Pentagon has devised a new military strategy aimed at driving a wedge between various factions, defense officials said.

The strategy stems from what the officials said is a deeper understanding of an insurgency that has gained strength in recent months and proved tougher and more resilient than expected. Once viewed as little more than a few thousand embittered remnants of Saddam Hussein's government, the hard-core militants in Iraq are now estimated by senior U.S. military officials to number as many as 12,000.

The dominant element of the insurgency, the officials said, is a loose group referred to in U.S. military documents as "Sunni Arab rejectionists," consisting largely of former members of Saddam's government. These are one-time military officers and intelligence agents who U.S. officials have come increasingly to believe had some kind of plan to reorganize into cells and wage an insurgency if U.S. forces invaded.

Filling out the resistance, the officials said, are an assortment of Islamic extremists, some homegrown, such as the militia led by radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, and some foreign, such as those associated with Jordanian-born Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, plus a mix of criminals, financiers and other "facilitators" operating inside and outside Iraq and having access to substantial sums of money.

The new Pentagon plan, devised over the summer, centers on enticing more Sunnis into the political process while targeting the Islamic extremist groups for elimination. It depends heavily on building Iraqi security forces more successfully than in the past year and breaking the bureaucratic logjams that have stymied flows of reconstruction aid into formerly rebel-held cities such as Samarra to win over civilian populations.

"The aim is to drive a wedge between the Sunni Arab rejectionists and the incorrigibles," said one senior official involved in policymaking on Iraq. "Many in the rejectionist group feel disenfranchised and are being intimidated. They need to be relieved

of that yoke and engaged, while the extremists need to be isolated, captured or killed."

U.S. forces face substantial obstacles in bringing their plan to fruition. Commanders have identified 22 cities and towns in Iraq that must be brought under the control of the Iraqi government before nationwide elections, scheduled for January, can be held. The status of those cities is being assessed periodically by U.S. military commanders, based on a matrix that rates the insurgent threat in the area, the readiness of local Iraqi security forces and the functioning of local government services.

Since the start of the holy month of Ramadan two weeks ago, insurgent attacks against Iraqis and U.S. and coalition forces have risen more than 25 percent, to about 80 a day. Pentagon figures show that about 80 percent of the attacks have been concentrated in four of Iraq's 18 provinces: Baghdad, Anbar, Salah ad Din and Ninawa, all areas heavily populated by Sunnis.

Moreover, the notion that the use of military force against some insurgent groups can be balanced with political and economic enticements aimed at others is a risky one, say experts on Iraq inside and outside the government. They warned in interviews that U.S. firefighters and aircraft attacks have themselves fed the insurgency, turning the relatives of slain militants and civilians into new insurgents.

"We don't understand why someone kills a brother, it calls for revenge killing," said Barbara Bodine, a State Department official who served in Iraq last year and now is a fellow at the Institute of Politics of Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. "We understand our daily humanization of Iraqis, but we don't see the view of Iraq's insurgency as a disparate assortment of groups is supported by a number of experts outside the U.S. government. While they describe the insurgency as lacking unity or a long-term vision, they also say it seems not to have suffered as a result."

"The insurgents may have calculated that their success will not require an elaborate political and socio-economic vision of a 'free Iraq,'" said Ahmed Hashim, professor of strategic studies at the Naval War College and a consultant to U.S. Central Command.

"Articulating the desire to be free of foreign occupation has sufficed to win popular support."

"The insurgents represent different philosophies, but they all want to get us out of Iraq," Bodine said.

Special ops forces step in into CIA domain

BY GREG MILLER
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Moving into an area of clandestine activity that traditionally has been the domain of the CIA, the Pentagon has secured new authority that allows U.S. special operations forces to dole out millions of dollars in cash, equipment and weapons to international warlords and foreign fighters.

The U.S. Special Operations Command will have, the new policy states, as much as \$25 million a year to spend providing "support to foreign forces, irregular forces, groups or individuals" aiding U.S. efforts against terrorists and other targets. Previously, military units were prohibited from providing money or arms to foreign groups.

Pentagon officials said the new capability is critical in the war on terrorism, enabling America's elite soldiers to help allied leaders or arm local militants in pursuing al-Qaida operatives and confronting other threats.

But the idea of entrusting soldiers with a job traditionally reserved for spies has raised concerns that the program might lead to abuse. Even those who support it have worries.

"In the right circumstances, like Iraq and Afghanistan, this makes sense," said one congressional official who speaks on the condition of anonymity. "In the wrong circumstances, it could lead us into some pretty bad stuff."

Current and former intelligence officials said that military units are not subject to the same requirements as the CIA, which typically must secure a presidential directive before providing aid or arms to foreign groups. They expressed concern that the measure might be just a first step toward a more aggressive encroachment on CIA turf by the secretary of defense and the military.

"If this plugs holes to meet valid national security concerns or problems, that comes first," said Jim Pavitt, who retired in August as director of operations at

the CIA. "If it's the first step in an effort to duplicate what already has been done by the CIA's clandestine service, I don't think we as a nation need it and I don't think we can afford it."

The new authority is contained in a little-noticed provision in the Defense Department authorization bill signed Friday by President Bush. The changes are designed to make special forces units less dependent on the CIA in securing the support of — and supplying arms to — individuals and militias, including those not controlled by foreign governments.

A former overseas CIA officer added a further caution. "If there is a disaster, a dust-up, a whole bunch of people do something really stupid, this will come and bite somebody," he said.

Anticipating some of these concerns, Congress tinkered language in the bill warning that it "does not constitute authority to conduct a covert action," meaning the Pentagon can't use the money for a CIA-style operation in which the U.S. seeks to deny involvement.



KSTP ABC NEWS AP

A soldier with the 101st Airborne Division is seen examining the contents of a barrel in a bunker in the Al-Qaqa facility in Iraq in this video footage made by Minneapolis ABC affiliate KSTP-TV on April 18, 2003, while the station had a crew embedded with the 101st during the war. The station says the video shows soldiers examining explosives, but it remains unclear if the explosives are the ones reported missing.

Human Rights Watch says it warned U.S. about high explosives

BY WILLIAM J. KOLE
The Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — Human Rights Watch's report said it alerted the U.S. military to a cache of hundreds of warheads containing high explosives in Iraq in May 2003, but that officials seemed uninterested and the U.S. hadn't secured the site 10 days later.

The disclosure, made Saturday by a senior leader of the New York-based group, raised new questions about the willingness or ability of U.S.-led forces to secure known stashes of dangerous weapons in Iraq.

Peter Bouckaert, who heads Human Rights Watch's international emergency team, told The Associated Press he was shown two rooms "stacked to the roof" with surface-to-surface warheads on May 9, 2003, in a warehouse on the grounds of the 2nd Military College in Baquba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad.

Bouckaert said he gave U.S. officials the exact location of the warheads, but that by the time he left the area on May 19, 2003, he had seen no U.S. forces at the site, which he said was being looted daily by armed men.

His comments came as the question of 377 tons of high explosives reported missing from another site — the Al-Qaqa military installation south of Baghdad — has become a heated issue in the final days of the U.S. presidential campaign.

Bouckaert said displaced people he was working with in the Baquba area had taken him to the warheads. "They said, 'There's stocks of weapons here and we're very concerned — can you please inform the coalition?'" he said in a telephone interview from South Africa.

After photographing the warheads, Bouckaert said he went straight to U.S. officials in Baghdad's Green Zone complex, where he said U.S. officials at first didn't seem interested in his information.

"They asked mainly about

chemical or biological weapons, which we hadn't seen," he said. "I had a pretty hard time getting anyone interested in it."

Bouckaert said he eventually was put in touch with unidentified U.S. officials and showed them on a map where the stash was located, also giving them the exact GPS coordinates for the site.

But he said he never saw U.S. forces at the site when he returned to the area for daily interviews with refugees, and that the site still was not secured when he finally left the area.

"For the next 10 days I continued working near this site and going back regularly to interview displaced people, and nothing was done to secure the site," he said.

"Looting was taking place by a lot of armed men with Kalashnikovs and rocket-propelled grenades," Bouckaert said. He said each of the warheads contained an estimated 57 pounds of explosives.

"Everyone" focused on Al-Qaqa, when what was at the military college could keep a guerrilla group in business for a long time creating the kinds of bombs that are being used in suicide attacks every day," he said.

The International Atomic Energy Agency said Monday that Iraq had reported 377 tons of high explosives missing from al-Qaqa "due to a lack of security" at the vast site south of Baghdad.

Iraqi officials told the agency the explosives went missing amid looting after the April 9, 2003, fall of the Iraqi capital.

The Pentagon has suggested the explosives, which can be used to make the kind of car bombs that insurgents have used in numerous attacks on U.S.-led forces, may have been removed before U.S. forces moved into the area.

Bouckaert said he estimates there were between 500 and 1,000 tons of high explosive warheads at the site in Baquba.

Car bombs require only about 6½ pounds of explosives, meaning that each warhead potentially could have yielded between 100 and as many as 150 car bombs, Human Rights Watch said.

Pilot recommended for bravery medal

Two downed fliers rescued in Iraq

BY JIM KRANE

The Associated Press

TAJI, Iraq — An Army helicopter gunship pilot is being recommended for a bravery medal for the rescue of a pair of wounded American fliers whose helicopter crashed in hostile territory south of Baghdad this month.

Capt. Ryan Welch, 29, who co-pilots an AH-64 Apache helicopter with the 1st Cavalry Division's 4th Brigade, led a risky night mission that saw him strap himself and a wounded flier to the exterior of the two-seat gunship that flew them to safety, said 4th Brigade commander Col. Jim McConnell.

Two Army pilots were killed in the Oct. 16 crash, which happened when two Army OH-58D Kiowa helicopters collided and plummeted into a field just south of Baghdad's airport.

Welch, of Lebanon, N.H., said he helped rescue the wounded pair by hoisting one semiconscious man into the front seat of the Apache, and strapping the second pilot, also wounded and in shock, to the outside of the helicopter's body.

Welch said he then strapped himself to the helicopter's exterior, and the pilot, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Justin Taylor, flew the Apache about 15 miles to an Army combat support hospital.

McConnell said another pair of Tajik-based Army fliers also are being considered for medals for their role in the Aug. 8 rescue of two other Kiowa pilots whose craft was downed during pitched fighting in Baghdad's Sadr City.

Those fliers, CW3 Steve Wells, 38, of Lampasas, Texas, and CW2 Jamie Stepan, 31, of Killeen, Texas, fired rockets that fended off a hostile crowd and killed Shiite fighters converging on the upturned helicopter, after it was shot down by a rocket-propelled grenade.

"It took an RFG to the tail, boom, spun around and landed upside down," McConnell said of the downed Kiowa.

The rescuing pilots landed their Kiowa chopper on a street adjacent to the crash site — taking fire as they did — in an attempt to rescue the downed fliers. The two men ended up being rescued by nearby U.S. ground troops, also with the 1st Cavalry Division, McConnell said.

None of the medals has been awarded yet.

The Army is still investigating whether hostile fire was involved in the Oct. 16 collision that killed pilots Capt. Chris Johnson, 29, of Excelsior Springs, Mo., and CW3 William Brennan, 37, of Bethlehem, Conn. Those injured were CW2 Chad Beck of Kremen, Ky., Beck and Crowe are currently on leave, McConnell said.

Welch, interviewed in a repair hangar on this base 12 miles north of Baghdad, said he and Taylor picked up a distress call as they flew over south Baghdad in search of insurgents teams that fire nightly mortar and rocket barrages at U.S. bases.

"We heard a distressed voice on the air, it said 'I've got two helicopters down. Two KIA,'" Welch said.



Army Capt. Ryan Welch, of Lebanon, N.H., shown in this undated family photo, is being recommended for a bravery medal for the rescue of a pair of two wounded American fliers whose helicopter crashed Oct. 16 in hostile territory south of Baghdad.

The voice belonged to Beck, who made the call from his emergency radio and had triggered the rescue beacon on his flight vest, after he and Crowe walked away from the burning wreckage of their Kiowa.

Welch and Taylor, 28, of Lodi, Calif., found the burning helicopter and circled the wreckage.

"The emergency radio crackled again: 'He's out just over the hill. Can you see my stroke?'"

It was Beck again, and Welch said he looked out the window and saw a blinking light about 100 yards from the burning helicopter.

Welch and Taylor landed in an adjacent field and radioed to Beck to meet them at the landing zone. Beck radioed back that Crowe was too hurt to walk. So Welch dashed to the crash site and found the two crash victims. The dead pilots lay nearby, in their crashed Kiowa.

Crowe was sitting in a daze, waving a pistol, not talking. Beck was standing quietly, staring off into the distance.

"They were both in the early stages of shock," Welch said. "Their eyes were glazed over. Their faces were bleeding profusely."

Welch said he and Beck were able to help Crowe to the Apache and hoist him into the front pilot's seat. But as a two-seater, the only way to carry passengers on an Apache is to seat them on an exterior fender-like protrusion and strap them to a handhold.

Welch strapped Beck to one side and himself to the other. Taylor lifted off and the two Apaches flew to Camp Fern-Huggins, seeing the headlights of U.S. ground troops that recovered the bodies of the dead pilots and the wrecked helicopters.

Welch described the ride as "like driving a motorcycle 90 mph without a helmet."

"It felt like my nostrils were going to tear," he said.

Army helicopters maxed out in counterinsurgency war

TAJI, Iraq — The U.S. military is increasingly turning to helicopters to battle guerrillas mining the roads and melting into the cities, using techniques closer to those in Vietnam or Israel than the large Gulf war formations that blasted Iraqi tanks.

The Army also is pushing its fleets of transport helicopters as hard as it can, ferrying U.S. troops and Iraqi leaders by air, rather than letting them drive the country's ambush-prone roads.

"When we fly, soldiers don't die," said Col. Jim McConnell, who commands the 1st Cavalry Division's aviation brigade. "We're basically flying as much as we can. And we can't fly them enough."

Since February, McConnell's 4th Brigade, headquartered on this dust-blown air base just north of Baghdad, has flown 50,000 combined hours in its nearly 100 helicopters, the highest average rate in division history.

Helicopters have emerged as the most important weapon in the U.S. air war in Iraq. They are expected to be critical to the forthcoming U.S. attempt to retake guerrilla-held Fallujah, with pairs of Apache, Kiowa and Marine Cobra attack helicopters often acting as the eyes — and arms — for small bands of ground troops.

Helicopters have proved themselves in dozens of counterinsurgency battles, with pilots radiating directions or firing rockets to allow beleaguered ground troops to overcome ambushes or blocked streets.

The ubiquitous Black Hawk, which entered service in 1979, has become a taxi for soldiers and contractors hopping from the safety of one U.S. base to another.

The ominous thumping sound of American helicopters roaring over Baghdad's rooftops is becoming as emblematic of this war as it was of the Vietnam war.

More than 30 U.S. helicopters have been shot down or have crashed since the U.S.-led invasion of March 2003.

The 1st Cavalry, whose pioneering of Vietnam "Air Cav" operations was featured in the 1979 movie "Apocalypse Now," has seen two of its helicopters shot down, one with a shoulder-fired missile and the other with an RFG.

The Army relies so heavily on its helicopters that some are being flown at rates beyond military recommendations.

Lt. Col. Mike Lundy, commander of the 1st Cavalry's Kiowa regiment, said each of his armed Kiowa flies around 105 hours per month, well over the recommended 65 hours.

— Jim Krane



Christian Service Charities

Christian charities you know and trust.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 2056 A Child's Hope Fund | 2080 Christian Military Fellowship |
| 2059 ACN's Children's Tuition Fund | 2087 Christian Relief Fund |
| 2061 Advocates International | 2091 Christian Relief Services |
| 2064 African American Self-Help Foundation | 2092 Compassion International Incorporated |
| 2064 Aid to Children, Youth and Families | 2091 Engineering Ministries International |
| 2067 AIDS Care Fund | 2094 Family Research Council |
| 2069 Alcohol & Drug Recovery Fund | 2092 Feed The Children |
| 2065 Alliance Defense Fund | 2086 Fellowship of Christian Athletes |
| 2066 American Family Foundation | 2087 Focus on the Family |
| 2069 American Garing for Children Worldwide | 2044 Food for the Hungry, Inc. |
| 2061 Association for Christian Conference | 2089 Homeless Shelter Foundation |
| Teaching & Service (ACTS) | International Christian Concern |
| 2002 Association of Gospel | 2071 Kids for the Kingdom |
| Rescue Missions | 2071 Men's Inc. |
| 2059 Awana Clubs International | 2072 Missionary Medical |
| 2050 Baptist World Alliance | 2077 Mission Community Youth Ministries |
| 2080 Bible League | 2037 Mission Aviation Fellowship |
| 2016 Billy Graham Evangelistic Association | 2014 Moody Bible Institute |
| 2010 Blessings International | 2014 MOP International |
| 2008 Coderne International | 2017 Navigators, The |
| 2004 Campus Crusade for Christ's Great Commission Foundation | 2018 Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, Inc. |
| 2004 Campus Crusade for Christ's Great Commission Foundation | 2018 Officers' Christian Fellowship of the USA |
| 2057 Care Net | 2030 Operation Blessing International Relief and Development Corp |
| 2059 Child Abuse Intervention Fund | 2029 Prison Fellowship International |
| 2020 Children's Christian Hunger Network | 2031 Prison Fellowship Ministries |
| 2026 Children's First Fund/World Emergency Relief | 2045 Promise Keepers |
| 2048 Children's Hospital/Child | 2048 Samaritan's Purse |
| 2027 Children's Hunger Relief Fund | 2048 Sinner's Care Fund |
| 2023 Children's Survival Fund | 2048 Society of St. Andrew |
| 2082 Christian Blind Mission International | 2025 Voice of the Martyrs; The |
| 2024 Christian Broadcasting Network, The | 2025 World Concern (A Division of) |
| Christian Foundation for Children | 2058 Worldwide Christian Schools |
| and Aging | 2079 Word Bible Translators |
| 2033 Christian Legal Society | 2029 Young Life |

www.christianservicecharities.org CFCF 2000

"...security comes from within...and the security of all men is founded upon the security of the individual."

—M. Hall

Bush, Kerry reach for electoral win

BY DAVID S. BRODER,
DAN BALZ AND
CHARLES BABINGTON

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Bush and his Democratic challenger, Sen. John F. Kerry, go into the final 48 hours of the 2004 presidential campaign within easy reach of an electoral majority, but neither has a clear advantage in the remaining handful of tossup states.

This year's election is a virtual rerun of the 2000 race, with many of the same states in the too-close-to-call category. But four years ago, Bush's route to electoral majority was clearer than Al Gore's, while this year his path appears no easier than Kerry's, given the states still in play.

Bush has solid leads in 23 states with 197 electoral votes and is favored in four more, which could bring him to 227. Kerry is equally solid in 13 states with 178 electoral votes and is favored in five states, which would bring him to 232. It takes 270 electoral votes to win. Six states — Florida, Ohio, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and New Mexico — with 79 electoral votes could determine the winner. All are regarded as tossups by neutral observers and the two campaigns.

What makes this presidential election so difficult to call is the intensity of voter interest, reflected in swollen registration totals and long lines for early voting, combined with the most aggressive voter mobilization efforts by both party and its allies have ever mounted. Democrats in particular believe their ground game may be decisive in the closest remaining states.

The other unknown is the potential impact of Osama bin Laden's Friday videotape message, which abruptly shifted headlines away from Iraq to terrorism and echoes of Sept. 11, 2001. Bush's highest ratings came for his leadership against the terrorists, but there was no discernible uptick in the president in polls taken during the first hours after the video aired.

The Washington Post's latest tracking poll shows a deadlocked electoral college, with Bush at 49 percent, Kerry at 48 percent and independent Ralph Nader at 1 percent, among likely voters. Most other polls show the race equally close, although a New York Times poll put Bush up 50-44 percent among likely voters. A general movement to ward one or the other candidate in the final hours could significantly alter the electoral map balance.

The candidates tried to tune their speeches to the shifting headlines as they campaigned in what they knew to be swing battleground states. From last winter on, both Bush and Kerry have targeted Florida, Ohio and Pennsylvania in the final hours, but only two of them would likely be elected.

Despite more than 40 Bush visits to Pennsylvania has now tilted to Kerry, and Republicans are fighting desperately to put the vote in their central and southwestern areas of strength enough to make up for the Democratic margin in Philadelphia and its suburbs.

Some public polls show the race tied, but insiders are skeptical

Bush can prevail.

Other states that have moved from the pre-convention tossup category toward Kerry are Washington, Oregon, Maine and Michigan.

Hawaii, once considered a Democratic certainty, has become a battleground in which Kerry is narrowly favored.

Meantime, Bush has gained the advantage in Colorado, Missouri, Nevada and West Virginia, all considered battlegrounds at one time.

In Florida, preparations for this election — and tensions over its outcome — have been building ever since the disputed 537-vote Bush margin gave him the presidency. Republicans retain control of the election machinery, run by an appointee of Gov. Jeb Bush, the president's brother. But Democrats have amassed an army of lawyers to challenge any irregularities. Both sides have prodded supporters to take advantage of the state's new early-voting law, and more than 1.5 million Floridians have turned in their ballots already. Republicans say they are growing in confidence that Bush will carry the state Tuesday but Democrats have taken heart from early vote patterns in some counties and are far from conceding.

Bush's most direct path to re-election is simply to capture Florida and Ohio two big states he won last time. That could bring his total to 274 electoral votes. If Kerry wins them both, he will be at 279.

Another option for Bush would be to steal Michigan from Kerry. The state's economic problems gave Kerry the early advantage. His managers assumed the state would swing, but they had little time and money to do it, an omission the Bush side moved quickly to exploit. With a revived party organization and hundreds of local "Victory headquarters," they have forced Kerry to increase his investment in the last 10 days.

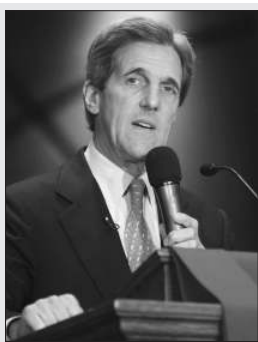
But if Michigan stays Democratic and Bush and Kerry split Florida and Ohio, then the other tossup states become decisive, particularly three in the upper Midwest: Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa. The winner of two of those three likely will win the White House.

All three went for Gore, but Kerry has struggled to make a party out of the state's conservative voters, typified by his reference to "Lambert" rather than Lambeau Field, home to the Green Bay Packers. All three states are now open to Bush.

The easiest for Kerry to win may be Minnesota, a state with a proud Democratic tradition but one that has trended Republican. Bush came close in Minnesota four years ago and may once again fall short.

Wisconsin has witnessed between the two candidates throughout the fall, with Democrats worried about black turnout in Milwaukee and Bush trying to push the state's voters in the Fox River Valley south of Green Bay. Like Minnesota, Wisconsin allows voters to register on Election Day, adding another unpredictable element.

Bush best bet to pick off a Democratic state may be Iowa, even though it is the state that



Left: Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry speaks during Sunday services at Shiloh Baptist Church in Dayton, Ohio. Right: President Bush, first lady Laura Bush and Monsignor Jude O'Doherty leave Sunday Mass at Church of the Epiphany in Miami. At back is Bush's brother, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush.



AP Photos

Candidates continue hunt for votes

BY NEDRA PICKLER

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAYTON, Ohio — Sen. John Kerry, after hammering President Bush over al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden, returned to domestic issues Sunday, criticizing cuts in after-school programs, health care coverage and jobs lost in the last four years.

Making his fifth consecutive Sunday appearance at a predominantly black church, this day in hotly contested Ohio, the Democratic presidential nominee quoted the Bible and criticized his White House rival without naming him.

"There is a standard by which we have to live,"

Kerry said.

"Coming to church on Sundays and talking about faith and professing faith isn't the whole deal."

Bush opened his day in a battleground to the south, at worship services at a Roman Catholic church in Miami. Bush, who has assiduously courted Catholics during his term, was accompanied by first lady Laura Bush, his brother, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, and other relatives. He was all but endorsed by Monsignor Jude O'Doherty. Bush isn't Catholic, but Kerry is.

"Mr. President, I want you to know that I admire your faith and your courage to profess it," O'Doherty said.

Bush planned three campaign rallies across the length of Florida, followed by another in Cincinnati. After Ohio, Kerry planned a stop in New Hampshire before following Bush to Florida, where he earned a narrow victory in 2000.

With the race too close to call, Bush and Kerry also sought to turn their advantage the re-emergence of bin Laden, mastermind of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people in New York, Arlington, Va., and Pennsylvania.

"The terrorists who killed thousands of innocent people are still dangerous and they are determined," Bush told supporters at a Wisconsin rally on Saturday, the day after bin Laden's newest videotaped message was broadcast.

Campaigning not far from the president, Kerry responded to bin Laden's re-emergence with his

launched Kerry toward the nomination last year. But Iowa remained too close to call over the weekend.

At one point in the campaign, four Rocky Mountain states were on the target list of the two campaigns, but in the closing weeks, only two — New Mexico and Nevada — see real competition. Ne-

vada leans to Bush, despite his support for making Yellowstone Mountain the nation's nuclear waste repository. New Mexico, which went for Gore with one of the smallest margins in the country, remains a tossup, with the closing trend toward Bush.

If New Mexico turns to another dead heat, Tuesday could turn

months-old criticism of Bush's post-Sept. 11 tactics in Afghanistan, bin Laden's once and perhaps current theme.

"As I have said for two years now, when Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida were cornered in the mountains of Tora Bora, it was wrong to outsource the job of capturing them to Afghan warlords," Kerry said Saturday. "It was wrong to divert our forces from Afghanistan so we could rush to war with Iraq without a plan to win the peace."

A Newsweek poll showed the president moving ahead of Kerry in the popular vote, 59 percent to 40 percent, after being tied in the same survey a week ago. Democrats said their private surveys hinted at momentum for Bush.

White House chief of staff Andrew Card, interviewed Sunday on CNN's "Late Edition," predicted a Bush victory on Tuesday night.

"We've got over a million volunteers in key battleground states helping the president get the vote out," Card said. "I really see tremendous momentum for the president."

On the campaign Saturday, the two candidates responded to bin Laden's tape in ways reflecting their long-held campaign strategies.

The president — who throughout the campaign has sought to deflect voter concerns about the war in Iraq, his handling of the economy and his job performance overall by fueling fears about terrorism — continued that theme.

At his first stop in Republican-leaning western Michigan, he reminded supporters of the 2001 attacks. "Americans go to the polls at a time of war and ongoing threats unlike any we have faced before," Bush said.

In response to the videotape, the Bush administration warned state and local officials that the tape may be intended to prompt or signal an attack.

Kerry has tried to tap anti-war sentiment within the ranks of the Democratic Party while assuring swing voters that he would keep them safe. The decorated Vietnam War veteran pledged anew to "destroy, capture, kill Osama bin Laden and all of the terrorists."

into another long night of counting, but that could be eclipsed if Hawaii remains as competitive as it has appeared in the last week. Newspaper polls in the once-staunchly Democratic state showed Bush running even with Kerry, prompting both campaigns to buy advertising and late visits by Cheney and Gore.

Chelsea Clinton makes her debut

Chelsea Clinton speaks at a Kerry-Edwards rally Saturday in Tampa, Fla., accompanied by Caroline Kennedy, left, and Vanessa Kerry, right. Former first daughter Clinton, shielded from the public during her years in the White House, delivered her first political speeches Saturday as she campaigned for Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry.



AP

The tricks just get dirtier

Attempts to block voting include 'lost' registrations, intimidation, a flier telling Democrats to vote Nov. 3

BY JO BECKER
AND DAVID FINKEL

The Washington Post

As if things weren't complicated enough, here comes the dirt.

Registered voters who have been somehow unregistered. Democrats who suddenly find they've been deregistered as Republicans. A flier announcing that Election Day has been extended through Wednesday.

Dirty tricks are a staple of campaigns, but election officials say this year's could achieve new highs in numbers and new lows in scope, especially in key battleground states such as Florida and Ohio, where special-interest groups have poured in to influence the neck-and-neck race between President Bush and Sen. John F. Kerry.

"In my 16 years as an election administrator, I've never seen anything like this," said Jon Sancho, supervisor of elections in Leon County, Fla. "I see it as an expression of a political culture that has evolved in the United States of mind at any cost. It's not partisan, but it's just lie, cheat and steal, and ethics be damned."

The problem in Leon County: Students at Florida State and Florida A&M universities, some of whom signed petitions to legalize medical marijuana or impose stiffer penalties for child molesters, unknowingly had their party registration switched to Republican and their addresses changed.

Officials say students at the University of Florida in Alachua County have made similar complaints and that about 4,000 potential voters in all have been affected. Local papers traced some of the problems to a group hired by the Florida Republican Party, which has denounced the shenanigans. Switching voters' party affiliations does not affect their ability to vote, but changing addresses does, because when voters show up at their proper polling places, they won't be registered there.

The college scam also has made an appearance in Pennsylvania, along with a separate scam last week in Allegheny County, where election officials received a flurry of phone calls about fliers handed out at a Pittsburgh mall and mailed to an unknown number of homes. The flier, distributed on bogus but official-looking stationery with a county letterhead, told voters that "due to immense voter turnout expected on Tuesday," the election had been extended. Republicans should vote Tuesday, Nov. 2, it said — and Democrats on Wednesday. A criminal investigation has been launched.

Authorities in several states also are investigating claims, by former employees of groups paid by both the Republican Party and Democratic-leaning interest groups, that they destroyed or did not turn in new registrations by voters of the opposite party.

Clothing investigations are claims and counter-claims not only about tricks, but double dirty tricks.

In Wisconsin, a flier is circulating in Milwaukee's black neighborhoods that purports to be from the "Milwaukee Black Voters League." "If you've already voted in any election this year, you can't vote in the presidential election," the flier reads. "If you violate any of these laws, you can get 10 years in prison and your children will get taken away from you."

Chris Lato, a spokesman for the Wisconsin Republican Party, called the fliers "appalling" but wondered whether Democratic interest groups might be to blame. He said circulators might be trying to gin up turnout among black voters.

"First of all, the claim was false, and it seems a little obvious," he said. "We have a lot of these shadowy Democratic groups here in Wisconsin, and I wouldn't put it past them to do something like this to muck up the works."

In Lake County, Ohio, some voters received a memo on bogus Board of Elections letterhead informing voters who registered through Democrats and NACCP drives that they could not vote. Election officials referred the matter to the sheriff.

Lawyers for the Ohio GOP, who have charged Democratic groups with registering fictitious characters such as Mary Poppins, said Friday that they condemned election fraud and misinformation campaigns of any kind. But some local Lake County Republicans have adopted the double-dirty-trick explanation, saying Democrats are out to make the GOP look bad.

Whatever the motive, election officials say voters are genuinely confused by the misinformation. In the Cleveland area, election officials said they received a spate of complaints after voters began receiving phone calls incorrectly informing them their polling place had changed. In addition, unknown volunteers began showing up at voters' doors illegally offering to collect and deliver completed absentee ballots to the election office.

Jane Platten, a spokeswoman for the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections, said officials have not identified who is behind the tricks. "We've never seen anything like this before, where there seems to be a concerted effort to give voters misinformation," she said.

Races and returns to keep an eye on

By LANCE GAY

Scripts Howard News Service

OK, now that you have an "I voted" sticker on your lapel you can sit back and watch the results of the election on Tuesday night, Nov. 2.

Here's a guide for what you will want to look for.

ELECTORAL VOTES: It takes 270 votes of the 538 total votes in the Electoral College to win. A 269-269 tie would throw the election to the House of Representatives, where each state delegation would have one vote. In the current House, Republicans control 30 of the 50 delegations.

BATTLEGROUNDS STATES: You already are familiar with the key swing states, because they are where George Bush and John Kerry have been concentrating all their campaigning for the last month.

With their electoral votes, they are: Arizona, 10; Arkansas, 6; Delaware, 3; Florida, 27; Iowa, 7; Louisiana, 9; Maine, 4; Michigan, 17; Minnesota, 10; Missouri, 11; Nevada, 5; New Hampshire, 4; New Mexico, 5; Ohio, 20; Oregon, 7; Pennsylvania, 21; Washington, 10; West Virginia, 5; Wisconsin, 11.

EXIT POLLS: Politicians and the media marks still rely on exit polling to divine which way the voters are going. A cautionary note: the trend to early voting is making them unreliable.

STATES TO WATCH: The East Coast results are going to reflect a national trend. Political experts say that given the breakdown in the battleground states, Kerry will at least he picks up two of these three states — Pennsylvania, Ohio and Florida.

Here are the highlights: ■ **Pennsylvania** has received the most presidential visits under George Bush than any other state. The state has voted Republican for some state offices and there's a large Roman Catholic vote, but it's also one of the Rust Belt states hit hard by the 2001 recession and Bush's decision to abandon tariffs on imported steel. It went for Al Gore in 2000 and is the home of Teresa Heinz Kerry, John Kerry's wife.

■ **Ohio** — No Republican has ever won the White House without winning in Ohio. The state also hasn't gone to the losing candidate since 1960, when Richard Nixon won there, but lost the election to John F. Kennedy. George Bush took the state with a 4 percent margin in 2000, but the recession cost the state 225,000 jobs. Gun rights and gay rights are big issues in Ohio.

■ **Florida:** The Sunshine state was bitterly fought over in the 2000 election, and Bush won by just 537 votes. Staunchly conservative and Republican regions in the north offset a strong Democratic vote among South Florida elderly voters. Bush is counting on a booming economy and the help of his brother, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, to pull his state back into Democratic stronghold.

■ **West Virginia:** George W. Bush was the first Republican to win West Virginia since Ronald Reagan and Republicans are expected to hold onto this traditionally Democratic stronghold. John Kerry wants to win West Virginia

back, but he's hampered by declining union clout and Bush's strong stand on defense.

■ **Michigan:** Kerry should begin his concession speech if he loses this state. Al Gore won it comfortably by 5 percent of the vote and the state's heavy Muslim vote supports Kerry. But Michigan has a large number of retired veterans and Lebanese Christians who are increasingly Republican.

■ **Wisconsin:** Democrat Al Gore won this state by 5,708 votes in 2000, and it's one of the central battlegrounds between Democrats and the GOP. Wisconsin's old tradition of liberal Republicanism has been changed as the party has attracted conservative Christian groups in the South.

■ **Minnesota:** Minnesota hasn't voted for a Republican president since 1972, but the voters here are notorious mavericks. They dealt the traditional farmer-labor coalition of Democrats a blow by voting ex-wrestler Jesse Ventura in an offshoot in 1998. Ralph Nader did well here and the Minnesota outcome will be an early indicator of what impact Nader's candidacy will have in this election.

■ **Missouri:** Missouri has been the most reliable barometer for presidential hopefuls, voting for the winner in every presidential election since the last one except 1956. Bush carried Missouri by just 80,000 votes in 2004.

■ **Washington:** The state is divided between the liberal vote of Seattle and the conservative vote in eastern parts of the state. Ralph Nader has a lot of student support here, but John Kerry's campaign could take votes away from John Kerry here. The state hasn't voted for a Republican presidential candidate in 20 years.

■ **Alabama:** Alabama seats are up for re-election. The current breakdown is 227 Republican, 205 Democrats, 1 independent, with two vacant seats formerly held by Republicans.

Watch for returns in Texas where a handful of Democratic seats could go Republican.

■ **THE SENATE:** Control is controlled by Republicans 51-48 with 1 independent.

If there are any coattails from the presidential election, they show up early in the evening in three key East Coast Senate races: Florida, North Carolina and South Carolina. All three seats are currently held by Independent Democrats, so a GOP pickup in any of them would be cause for jubilation by Republicans that they in "Southern" states are being strong on issues appealing to Christian voters and strong on defense — is the path to future success.

Later in the evening, watching for the returns in South Dakota, Colorado and Alaska. Washington insiders are particularly interested in "Southern" strategy where Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle could be fatally hurt by a strong Bush vote.

AFTER THE ELECTION: Challenges to the election have to be cleared by Dec. 7. Electors meet in their respective state capitals Dec. 13. A special joint session of the new Congress convenes Dec. 6 to read and certify the votes and officially declare the winner.

Jam Master Jay's killer still on the lam

BY TOM HAYS

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — At his platinum-selling peak, when rap pioneers Run-DMC were a worldwide sensation, Jam Master Jay still drew musical inspiration from the gritty streets of his native Queens.

Two years after a mystery gunman walked into Jay's recording studio and pumped a bullet into his head, those same streets have offered few clues about his killer. On the anniversary of his death on Oct. 30, 2002, family members and investigators say the case has been hampered by dead-end leads, reluctant witnesses and bad publicity.

Investigators say they are certain that Jay, whose real name was Jason Mizell, knew his killer. But they know little else. Not even a \$60,000 reward for information leading to an arrest has elicited a response.

"The case is progressing at a slow rate," said L. Richard Belucci of the Queens Homicide Task Force.

One theory — that the rapper was involved in a drug deal gone bad — has cast doubt of a cloud over his legacy to stall a proposal that would rename a portion of a Queens street to Jam Master Jay Way.

"It's not a top priority," said Yvonne Reddick, manager of a community board that received a request for the name change.

Family members acknowledge

that Jay, the founding member of Run-DMC, left behind a mountain of debt. But they insist he was not mixed up in drugs. Police "never found any proof of that," said his mother, Connie Mizell-Perry.

During the 1980s, Mizell made rap music history working the turntables as Joe "Run" Simmons and Darryl "DMC" McDaniels rapped on hits like "King of Rock," "It's Tricky" and a Top 40 remake of Aerosmith's "Walk This Way."

Mizell's last moments were spent at the 24/7 recording studio.

According to a performer working in the studio, a man wearing a black sweat suit appeared, embraced Mizell, pulled out a .40-caliber pistol and opened fire.

A first round missed Mizell and injured performer Urlicio Rincon.

A second bullet, this one fired from point-blank range, entered the left side of Mizell's head. The shooter vanished.

Speculation followed that Mizell was killed because he owed money in a drug deal. Some authorities also suggested that Mizell was caught in the crossfire of a rivalry between rap figures who associate with known criminals.

Rincon has told investigators he did not recognize the shooter.

Others in the studio were of little help and some even have hired lawyers, said Derrick Parker, a retired detective who monitored the rap world for the police department.



Rap group Run DMC — from left, Joseph "Run" Simmons, Darryl "DMC" McDaniels and Jason "Jam Master Jay" Mizell — poses at the 31st annual Grammy Awards in New York City on March 2, 1988. A mystery gunman killed Jam Master Jay in a Queens recording studio on Oct. 30, 2002. Two years later, his family and police investigators say that the unsolved case has been hampered by dead-end leads, reluctant witnesses and negative publicity.

"Everybody has counsel," Parker said. "It makes it complicated."

But police officials say some witnesses who were at first too scared to talk have started to

open up, and detectives remain hopeful the killer will be caught.

Meanwhile, Mizell's mother has busied herself by raising money for a charitable foundation named after her son. She pre-

fers to focus on his successes in life, not his violent end.

"There's always a good feeling when I think about Jason," she said. "He's here in spirit."

Associated Press writer Michael Weisstein contributed to this report.

Cartier brings jewels to Texas

BY PAM EASTON

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Those who can't afford Cartier's jewels can admire them up close at the Houston Museum of Fine Arts, where diamond and aquamarine tiaras, a 150-carat sapphire brooch once owned by the Dutchess of Windsor and other jewels are on display.

The exhibit, which has only one U.S. stop in Houston, is unique because it focuses on the quality of the jewelry's design and beauty, rather than who owned the jewels or the time period in which they were created, museum officials said.

The exhibit opens Sunday and continues through March 27.

"People will be knocked out, maybe a little frightened by the brilliance of it," said Peter Marzio, the museum's director, who brought the exhibit to Houston after seeing it in Milan and Berlin.

Italian architect Ettore Sottsass put together the exhibit of 209 pieces from the renowned jeweler's 1,200-piece private collection.

"The basic idea was to select the items of jewelry solely on the basis of their design," Sottsass said. "We made our choices on the basis of that we considered to be the prettiest, the most wearable, the most reasonable."

The jewels, including gem-studded cigarette holders, binoculars, handbags, powder boxes, timepieces and more traditional necklaces, bracelets and rings, shimmer in a darkened exhibit hall.

Two of the more stunning pieces appear at the beginning of the exhibit — a platinum tiara from 1908 with 15 pear-shaped diamonds and oriental pearls



This crocodile necklace, set with more than 1,000 diamonds and 1,000 emeralds, is one of more than 200 Cartier pieces on display at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston.

and a platinum-and-round-diamond choker necklace created by Cartier in 1906.

The exhibit's final piece is a crocodile necklace created in 1975 for Mexican actress Maria Felix. The two crocodile bodies are gold. One is covered with 1,025 yellow diamonds, while the other is adorned with 1,060 circular cut emeralds.

According to legend, Felix showed up to an appointment with Cartier walking a crocodile and asked that they make her a necklace.

On the Web: Houston Museum of Fine Arts: www.mfaoh.org

R. Kelly, Jay-Z call it quits

BY LARRY MCSHANE

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The tumultuous tour pairing platinum-selling stars R. Kelly and Jay-Z came to an abrupt end Saturday, one day after a member of the rapper's entourage allegedly blasted Kelly in the face with pepper spray during a concert at Madison Square Garden.

Kelly was booed from shows Saturday and Monday at the Garden by the promoter, who told the "I Believe I Can Fly" singer that he was banned from the facility, said his publicist, Allan Mayer. The promoter announced that Jay-Z, with special guests, would do the shows alone.

"The fans deserve better than this," Kelly said in a statement. "I'd like the show to go on. It's really disappointing that Jay-Z and the promoter don't."

The duo's "Best of Both Worlds" tour was troubled from its start earlier this month, with three shows canceled due to "technical problems" and reports that the feuding superstars weren't even on speaking terms.

Although additional shows were scheduled through Nov. 28, the tour has been canceled, said promoter Jeff Sharp of Atlanta Worldwide Touring. Jay-Z's publicist was unsure if the rapper

would try and fill the remaining dates as a solo act.

"Jay-Z wants to make sure that he doesn't disappoint his fans and gives them the best show possible," said Jana Fleishman, Jay-Z's publicist.

Things came to a head on Friday night, when Kelly abruptly stopped his set after alleging that he spotted two gun-toting fans in the crowd, Mayer said. Garden security employees searched for weapons but found none, and told Kelly it was safe to continue performing, Mayer said.

As the singer made his way back to the stage, a member of Jay-Z's entourage — apparently annoyed by Kelly's interruption of the show — blasted him and two of his bodyguards in the face with the noxious spray, Mayer said.

All three men were treated and released at St. Vincent's Hospital, Mayer said. Jay-Z continued performing after Kelly was sprayed; singer Usher, who was in the Garden crowd, joined the rapper onstage for a surprise three-song performance, Fleishman said.

According to Mayer, lawyers for Kelly were filing a criminal complaint against Kelly's assailant and also were considering legal action over the decision to boot the singer from the remaining dates. "We're considering all possible ways of protecting Robert's interests," Mayer said.

IN THE WORLD



View of a meeting of the Palestinian Legislative Council in the West Bank town of Ramallah on Sunday. Palestinian officials have been convening a series of top meetings in recent days to show that their institutions continue to function in Yasser Arafat's absence.

Israeli, Palestinian leaders plan for Arafat's absence

BY MOHAMMED DARAGHEH

The Associated Press

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Senior Palestinian and Israeli leaders held separate meetings Sunday to plan a path forward in the absence of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who was sequestered in a French hospital with an unknown ailment.

Palestinian officials have been convening a series of top meetings in recent days to show that their institutions continue to function in Arafat's absence, while Israeli officials scrambled to plan for the possibility that Arafat could die.

The Palestinian leader has said he wants to be buried in Jerusalem, at the holy site known to Jews as the Temple Mount and to Muslims as the Haram as-Sharif, or Noble Sanctuary.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said Sunday he would never allow that.

"As long as I am prime minister, Arafat won't be buried in Jerusalem," he told his Cabinet, according to participants in the meeting.

Israeli security officials have expressed concern that a funeral procession in Jerusalem could quickly spin out of control. Israel also believes a burial in Jerusalem would bolster Palestinian claims to the city.

Israeli also was preparing for the possibility that the West Bank and Gaza could erupt into chaos if Arafat dies and senior defense, foreign affairs and intelligence officials briefed the Cabinet on Arafat's health and possible scenarios for the future.

Israeli officials said they were working under the assumption Arafat would not return to the Palestinian political arena.

In an effort to project unity and continuity in the Palestinian Authority, top leaders have held a series of meetings in recent days.

Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia, whose efforts to force Arafat to relinquish some power have largely failed, chaired a session Sunday of the Palestinian National Security Council. The body, headed by Arafat, commands the most important of the myriad Palestinian security forces.

In a symbolic gesture, Qureia refused to sit at the head of the table, Arafat's place.

Former Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas, who resigned last year in frustration with Arafat, made the same symbolic gesture Saturday when he presided over a meeting of the PLO executive committee.

The Palestinian Legislative Council also met Sunday and the PLO executive committee was to meet again Sunday night.

"In a commitment from our side to our president, our national symbol, we are convening all our institutions as we used to do when he was present," said Jibril Rajoub, Arafat's top security adviser.

Until the Palestinian leadership situation becomes clear, the Israeli army will "demonstrate restraint" in military operations in the West Bank and Gaza, Israeli Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom said.

"These are days of waiting, and during such days you act perhaps with a bit more caution," Shalom told Army Radio before the weekly Cabinet meeting.

Shaath said examinations had ruled out leukemia "or any other cancer." However, no doctors or other specialists have publicly confirmed that conclusion. The only problem that has been announced is a low blood platelet count.

Jordan convicts man of raising terror funds

BY JAMAL HALABY

The Associated Press

AMMAN, Jordan — Jordan's military court convicted a terror suspect Sunday of raising funds to help Abu-Musab al-Zarqawi, the most-wanted militant in Iraq, carry out attacks on U.S. forces there and against Jordanian interests in the kingdom. Bilal al-Hiyari was sentenced to six months in jail.

The court, however, acquitted al-Hiyari, 34, of conspiracy to carry out terror attacks, saying there was little evidence to implicate him.

Under Jordanian law, verdicts resulting in less than three years imprisonment cannot be appealed.

The defendant, sporting a black beard and wearing a navy blue prison uniform, stood silently in front of the military court's chief judge, Col. Fawaz Buqur, as the sentence was read out.

You are acquitted of conspiring to carry out terror attacks because specific details of the accusation could not be substantiated with hard evidence," Buqur told the defendant.

"Thank you," the Jordanian businessman responded.

Military prosecutors accused al-Hiyari of having collected unspecified amounts of money to fund attacks on U.S. forces in Iraq and terrorist activities in Jordan planned by al-Zarqawi, who is thought to be a close asso-

ciate of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden.

The indictment sheet alleged al-Zarqawi had recruited al-Hiyari to "raise funds to finance military operations on the Jordanian and Iraqi arenas." It said U.S. forces in Iraq were specifically targeted.

Al-Hiyari allegedly met al-Zarqawi in Afghanistan at an unspecified date and "developed a warm friendship because both espoused the similar holy war ideology," the indictment said.

It said al-Hiyari visited al-Zarqawi in Iraq in July 2003 on an invitation from al-Zarqawi's spiritual leader, Omar Yousef Jumah, who is also known as Sheikh Abu Ahsan al-Shami. Al-Shami was killed in a U.S. airstrike in Iraq last month.

In August 2003 in Jordan, al-Hiyari allegedly raised around \$3,000 to buy a German-made Opel car that was sent to al-Zarqawi in Iraq by an Iraqi associate of al-Zarqawi, identified as Abu-Ya'qub. The indictment did not say where the funds came from.

It said later that year and in early 2004, al-Zarqawi twice sent al-Hiyari an envelope, identified as Al-Miqdad al-Dabbas, to collect more money, which al-Hiyari could not raise before he was arrested May 16 and the U.S. airport was foiled. The indictment did not specify how Jordanian authorities learned about the plot.

Iran OKs bid to resume uranium enrichment

BY ALI AKBAR DAREINI

The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — The Iranian parliament unanimously approved the outline of a bill Sunday forcing the government to resume enriching uranium, legislation likely to deepen an international dispute over Iran's nuclear activities at a time when its chief negotiator gave compromise talks a 50-50 chance of success.

"Death to America" rang out in the conservative-dominated parliament after lawmakers voted to advance the nation's nuclear program, an issue of national pride that provides a rare point of agreement between many conservatives and reformers.

Washington has pushed hard for Iran to drop its nuclear program, which Tehran maintains is for peaceful energy purposes. The International Atomic Energy Agency, which is the U.N.'s nuclear watchdog, and European powers also are trying to persuade Iran to limit its nuclear activities.

The United States, which has secured some European support, accuses Iran of trying to build nuclear weapons. Britain, France and Germany offered Iran a trade deal and peaceful nuclear technology in return for assurances the country will stop enrichment in-

definitely — something Iran says it will not do.

Parliament speaker Gholam Ali Haddad Adel called parliament's vote a message to the world.

"The message of the absolute vote for the Iranian nation is that the parliament supports national interests," he said. "And the message for the outside world is that the parliament won't give in to coercion."

A date was not set for discussing details of the legislation, under which the government would be required to resume enrichment of uranium — injecting gas into centrifuges, to assure Iran is not doing now. The outline of the bill did not include a date by which the government must resume enriching uranium.

Such legislation could limit Iranian officials negotiating with the Europeans, unless the government is able to persuade parliament to pre-empt any move on details of the bill for weeks or months.

Britain, Germany and France have warned the most European states will back Washington's call to refer Iran to the U.N. Security Council for possible economic sanctions. Tehran doesn't give up all uranium enrichment activities before a Nov. 25 IAEA meeting.

PLO leader improving but more tests needed

The Associated Press

CLAMART, France — Having ruled out leukemia, French doctors were trying for a second day Sunday to determine what ailing Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat is suffering from, his aides said.

Palestinian officials gave conflicting reports when results from further tests were expected. Mohammed Rashid, a close Arafat aide, said results were due Wednesday, but Palestinian Cabinet minister Saeb Erekat said Arafat's doctors would issue a medical report in the next 48 hours.

But, "Arafat does not have leukemia," Rashid said. "It's been ruled out. Rule it out."

The Palestinian foreign minister, Nabil Shaath,

STARS AND STRIPES LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THOMAS E. KELSCH, Publisher
THOMAS BIERMAN, General Manager, Europe
LT. COL. CYRIL J. SOCHA, Commander

News and Editorial

DAVID MAZZELLA, Editor
DAVID CLAMPSON, Editor
ROBB GRUNSTAF, Associate Editor
JIM ANDREWS, Editor
SCOTT BERNES, Middle East Bureau Chief
JOE GROMELER, Editor
ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITORS:
Sharon Olson, News
Peter Podhousky, Photo/Graphics
Brian Owens, Features
Sean Morris, Sports

Addresses

U.S. MAIL: Unit 29480, APO 96211
INTERNATIONAL MAIL: Postfach 1330, 64345 Griesheim,
Germany
FAX: DSN 349-8416; or (+49) (0) 6155/601416
E-mail: News: news@starsandstripes.com
Letters: letters@starsandstripes.com
CENTRAL OFFICE: 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington DC
20045-1301, Phone 202-312-7690
731-9900 Fax: (+1) 202-312-7690
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR: David Mazzella, 529 14th St. NW, Suite
350, Washington DC 20045-1301, Phone DSN 312-733-0445 or
(+1) 202-761-0945.
E-mail: dmazzella@starsandstripes.com
OMBOUDSMAN: Jay Ungles, Send comments to: Ombudsman, Stars
and Stripes, 529 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC
20045-1301, Phone column: (+1) 4801-364-0332
or (+1) 401-364-8026.
e-mail: ombudsman@starsandstripes.com

How to call us

Letters: DSN 349-8327, or (+49) (0) 6155/601230
Editor: DSN 349-8400, or (+49) (0) 6155/601200
Sports: DSN 349-8325, or (+49) (0) 6155/601220
Advertising: DSN 349-8317, or (+49) (0) 6155/601427
Advertising: DSN 349-8335/443
e-mail: (+49) (0) 6155/60335443

News Bureaus

GERMANY (country code +49)
Bamberg: Rick Entorf, 27000 BSB, Unit 27336, APO AE
09400, DSN 349-8327, or (+49) (0) 315/6899; fax DSN
489-8007 or (+49) (0) 315/689-8007.
E-mail: merrill@starsandstripes.com
Bamberg: Terry Boyd, 27000 BSB, APO AE 09034, fax DSN
489-6081, or (+49) 673-7007; e-mail:
boyd@starsandstripes.com
Darmstadt: David Dougherty, Unit 29480, APO AE 09211, fax DSN
349-8406 or (+49) (0) 6155-6100.
E-mail: ddougherty@starsandstripes.com
Ward Sanderson, Unit
29480, APO AE 09211, fax DSN 349-8325 or (+49) (0) 6155-6100.
E-mail: sanderson@starsandstripes.com
Jesca
Carling, Unit 29480, APO AE 09211, fax DSN 349-8320 or (+49) (0) 6155-6120; e-mail: mcarling@starsandstripes.com
and Lisa from, Unit 29480, APO AE 09211, fax DSN 349-8327 or
(+49) (0) 6155-6120; e-mail: horman@starsandstripes.com
Heidelberg: David B. Jones, 41000 HSD, APO AE 09014, fax DSN
621-00554, or (+49) (0) 621-00554; e-mail:
djb@starsandstripes.com
Kaiserslautern/Spanheim: Maria McCreary, APO AE 02227-317,
DSN 349-8328 or (+49) (0) 631-5744; fax DSN 349-8328 or
(+49) (0) 631-5696; e-mail: mcreary@starsandstripes.com
Stuttgart: David B. Jones, 41000 HSD, APO AE 09014-045,
DSN 621-2388 or (+49) 0711-729000; e-mail:
djb@starsandstripes.com
Weinheim: Loretta Lee, Unit 350-6500 or (+49) 693-4671; fax DSN
(+49) (0) 693-4671; e-mail: llewis@starsandstripes.com

Arlino/Vincennes: Kent Harris, DSN 310 632-7652 or (+49) (0) 354-6675; fax DSN 310 632-7652 or (+49) (0) 354-6675; second line DSN 310 632-4222 or (+49) (0) 354-6675; e-mail: ksharris@starsandstripes.com
Naples: James Scott, RPO 810, Box 16, APO AE 09016, fax DSN
626-5122 or (+49) 09016-5157, fax DSN 626-5150 or
(+49) (0) 981-558-5150; e-mail:
scott@starsandstripes.com

SPAIN

Reita: Scott Schwaner, RPO 810, Box 16, APO AE 09016, fax DSN
727-1099 or (+49) 340-0582-1099, fax DSN 727-1034 or
(+49) 340-0582-1034; e-mail: schwaner@starsandstripes.com

Tacile: Stars and Stripes, Operations Joint Force, APO AE 09780, fax
DSN 0087-61-13574, fax DSN 0087-61-13574

UNITED KINGDOM

RAF Mildenhall: 115555 RAF, Building 665, E525-UK, RAF Mildenhall,
Huntington, Cambs PE36 9AS, UK, (+44) (0) 1638-544888, fax (+44) (0) 1638-718013.
E-mail: mldenhall@starsandstripes.com

WASHINGTON DC

Bureau editor: Patrick Dickson, 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Wash-
ington DC 20045-1301, fax (+1) 202-761-0859,
E-mail: pdickson@starsandstripes.com
Sandra Jantz and Lisa Jones, 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Wash-
ington DC 20045-1301, fax (+1) 202-761-0859-4202, fax (+1) 202-761-0859-4366.
E-mail: pdickson@starsandstripes.com, borges@starsandstripes.com

Printed in Italy by Editoriale Telemagnum

Stars and Stripes (ISSN 107252) is published daily except Christmas
and New Year's for 30 cents daily and 50 cents for the Stars and Stripes
country edition. 529 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301. Per-
mission to photocopy: This publication is registered with the Copyright Clearance
Center and the Copyright Licensing Agency. Send requests for permission to
reproduce in whole or in part to: Copyright Clearance Center, 222 Rosewood Drive,
Danvers, MA 01923, (978) 750-8400, www.copyright.com. For those organizations
that have been granted a photocopy licence by CCC, a separate system of payment
has been arranged. The fee code for users of the Copyright Clearance Center
transactional reporting service is 0891-3176/2004 \$10.00.

This newspaper is authorized for publication by the Department of Defense
for members of the Military Services overseas. However, the content
of this newspaper is not to be used for any purpose other than that intended
as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, including
the Department of Defense or the U.S. Government. As a DoD newspaper,
the STARS and STRIPES may be distributed through official
channels and use appropriated funds for distribution to remote and isolated
locations where overseas DoD personnel are located.
The appearance of advertising in this publication, including notices or
announcements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of
Defense or the STARS and STRIPES of the products or services advertised.
The Department of Defense does not assume any liability for the use of
information contained in this publication for purposes not intended by the
author. For purchase, use, or copyright without notice to trace, chain of
title, use, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affil-
iation or other content factors of the purchaser, user, or publisher.

STARS AND STRIPES WEB SITE: WWW.STRIPES.COM

For some, tours too long

After reading the recent articles and pro-
ponents for short and long tours, I find
necessary to point out that it may be OK
for many in the U.S. military to adhere to
the yearlong tour program but for others,
due to the nature of their position, it may
become an undue burden both mentally and
physically.

The prime example I offer is the men
and women who serve as combat medical
personnel in country. Here in Iraq, as
pointed out in "In Iraq, U.S. treats all pa-
tients equally" (Oct. 17) on the 31st Com-
bat Support Hospital nurses, they work
12-hour shifts, often seven days a week
with only a few days off. These are the
men and women who serve soldiers at their
worst every day, who you see death, de-
spair, and the true face of war on every shift they
work while we see what's in the papers
and only sometimes, unfortunately so, first-
hand.

They also work on both Iraqis (prisoners
and civilians) as well as coalition per-
sonnel. What does it do to your psyche
when you have to deal with the very person
who tried to kill the U.S. soldier in the
other room? What does the military say to
these people who they entrust with saving
soldiers' lives when they can't take it any-
more? Why do they not rotate medical per-
sonnel in and out of theater? For these regu-
lar soldiers it would be easy to rotate
them on a three-month cycle in country
and back home.

I am dismayed at the huge responsibility
of the U.S. military has given these men
and women for the lives of soldiers coming
from battle but not taking into account
their well-being and mental acuity over
the long period of time they require them
to serve in theater. Change this, change it
now.

Johann R. Jones

Baghdad

Badge issue hits home

The Combat Infantryman Badge issue
hit home in my unit 69th Infantry out of
New York because we have a number of
soldiers in my battalion who were pulled
out of other military occupational special-
ties to round out the battalion for de-
ployment to Iraq.

These guys are not infantry MOS qualified
even though this is an infantry unit
and they are not promotable or eligible for
the badge.

When Gen. George C. Marshall created
the award in 1943 he wanted to recognize
the soldiers that perform the infantry mis-
sion as their primary assignment. Many
soldiers of all fields participated in ground
combat during World War II, however
Marshall felt that only soldiers who per-
formed the infantry mission should be
eligible for the special recognition of the
badge.

During current operations, again sol-
diers of all branches get caught up in
ground combat from time to time, yet af-
terward they go back to their regular assign-
ments, possibly out of harm's way during
much of their time in theater. I don't think
granting these soldiers the CIB would be

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on
editorials and columns that are published in the
newspaper, and values letters on topics of im-
portance in the lives of our readers. All letters must
be signed, and must include the writer's address or
base and telephone number. Please limit all
letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit
letters for length, taste and clarity.

Send your letters to:

U.S. Mail:
Stars and Stripes
Unit 29480
APO AE 09211
International mail:
Stars and Stripes
Postfach 1330
64345 Griesheim

Via fax: (Country code +49) (0) 6155/601395;
Fax: 349-8395

E-mail: letters@starsandstripes.com

in keeping with Marshall's intent for the
award.

However, the non-MOS qualified sol-
diers serving with us are a different story.
They have been assigned to an infantry
unit and been given the infantry mis-
sion. They should be able to qualify
by on-the-job training and made eligible
for promotions within the unit and the
CIB.

The Army might look at all who have
been retrained and given the infantry as-
signment as their full-time job in the same
light, reclassifying their MOS for the du-
ration of their deployment.

Sp. Patrick O'Driscoll

Camp Buehring, Kuwait

Female GIs perform admirably

I wish to comment on the article "Army
pioneers female role in 'units of action'"
(Oct. 23).

I am a female soldier temporarily as-
signed to an infantry unit here in Baghdad.
I am a member of a National Guard En-
hanced Brigade that is being converted to
a Unit of Action. I am one of a select num-
ber of active-duty National Guard females
who are assigned to the headquarters com-
pany of a combat engineer battalion. The
females of our unit are assigned in support
roles such as administrative and supply
personnel, cooks, mechanics and medics.

I love being a member of a combat bri-
gade. I get the chance to actually use my
skills as a soldier instead of sitting behind
a desk in some headquarters building.

I am continually frustrated by the policy
limiting females to noncombat roles and
people such as Center for Military Readiness
President Elaine Donnelly who use their
positions to actively campaign
against females in the military.

In the last century, women have fought
very hard to ensure that we live in a place
where we are treated as equals; yet, in the
military, we are still pigeon-holed into
"safe" support positions behind the "front
line."

After being here for seven months, I can
tell you there is nowhere safe, there is no
front line, and our female soldiers have

performed next to their male counterparts
admirably.

I believe it is time for a change. The tac-
tics of war are changing and so must the
U.S. military. There are outstanding fe-
male officers and soldiers who have so
much to contribute, but are limited by the
notion that females cannot handle combat
situations. I assure all: They can do it.

Female officers and noncommissioned
officers are required to train in combat sce-
narios at leadership schools and remain
proficient in those skills. The Army has
given us the training, and we should be
given the opportunity to show the govern-
ment we are equal to our male peers on the
battlefield.

I just wanted to thank reporter Lisa Bur-
ges for writing this article. This decision
will have a huge impact on my career and
that of my fellow soldiers.

Staff Sgt. Lydia Allen

Baghdad

Two chips on one block

The Oct. 27 article "Passport" now re-
quired to bring pets across European
Union borders states that there is a possi-
ble holdup on U.S. personnel getting a pet
passport because the chip is different here
in the States.

Well, I adopted a dog while I was in Ger-
many and it was chipped; the dog I adopted
in the States is also chipped. Both coun-
tries can read the numbers of their chips, so I am
not sure where they are different.

The numbers on the German chips are
much longer than the ones that are here in
the States, but they can be read. We just
make sure that both the German and the U.S.
companies that store the numbers are
aware that the dogs belong to us and that
our addresses are current.

I cannot remember if this cost anything
or not. If it did, it was a minor fee.

Wayne R. Wise

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

Adoption Awareness Month

November is National Adoption Awareness
Month, established in 1990. It is a time to
inform society about adopting, particu-
larly for those children in foster care.
The month also serves as a time to com-
memorate all the lives that have been
touched through adoption. Every year,
Americans adopt thousands of children, ei-
ther domestically or internationally. Unfor-
tunately, there are even more children left
in foster homes waiting to be placed. Most
of these children are minorities, older chil-
dren, have special needs, or all of the above.

Adoption is a unique way to build a fam-
ily. I have experienced this personally.
Three years ago, my husband and I adopted
our son. We had a wonderful experi-
ence, and our son is the joy of our lives. We
are thankful for him, and his birth mother
who made a very loving sacrifice to find
him a stable, two-parent home.

Please take a moment this month to cele-
brate the joys of adoption, or find the op-
portunity to learn about the process.

LaShae Udoaka

Ramstein, Germany

By GARRY TRUDEAU



OPINION

No argument that 'talk TV' lacks substance

Are you tired of watching-line between news and entertainment? Fed up with feuding TV spin doctors passing for reasoned debate? Is that your problem, Bunky?

Clarence Page



And when he recently had a rare opportunity to say so, right in the face of CNN's "Crossfire" hosts, Tucker ("From the right!") Carlson and Paul ("From the left") Begala, he let 'em have it.

Conservative commentator Carlson and Democratic campaign consultant Begala had invited Stewart to talk about his new book. Instead, he scolded their show for presenting a weapon of mass distortion: partisan arguments that are intended less to inform the public, in Stewart's view, than to score political points, the video equivalent of mud wrestling while the Republic sinks into the ooze.

"See, the thing is, we need your help," Stewart said in his most earnest let's-get-serious voice. "Right now, you're helping the politicians and the corporations. You're part of their strategies. You are partisan — what do you call it? —

hacks!"

Ah, the effrontery! Tucker-on-the-Right responded testily that Stewart's recent spot interviewed with John Kerry (Sample: "Is it true that every time I use ketchup your wife gets a nickel?") made the comedian-host look like a "butt-boy" for the campaign.

"If you want to compare your show to a comedy show, you're more than welcome to," Stewart responded. "... You're on CNN! The show that leads to me is puppets making crank phone calls!"

Ah, so that's the difference between the two shows: Stewart follows puppets, while "Crossfire" follows Judy Woodruff and leads into Wolf Blitzer. I get it.

Ironically, the televised feud generated a publicity boost so generous for both programs that Stewart's little sermon instantly became part of the very problem about which he was complaining: the Hollywoodwoodification of political and ideological discourse.

That process was well under way in our culture. As I write, I am watching Stewart back on his own program interviewing former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright about, among other worldly wonders, the high heels worn by Kim Jong Il to help the self-conscious North Korean strongman see eye-to-eye with visitors.

With VIP guests that also have included Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass.; former President Bill Clinton; Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz.; and Republican Party Chairman Ed Gillespie, Stewart's program presents in its comedy format what "Crossfire" or ABC's

"Nightline" do in more-serious settings. The difference: Stewart's show attracts more 18- to 34-year-old viewers than the network news does.

Yet, after Fox News Channel's Bill O'Reilly repeatedly ridiculed Stewart's audience as "stoned slackers" and "dopey kids" during an interview, a Comedy Central poll found that the show has more college graduates and \$75,000 earners in their audience than O'Reilly's does.

There's gold in info-tainment. Nevertheless, I appreciate what Stewart was complaining about. "Crossfire" and other argument shows, including some on which I have appeared, do not really present "debate" in the classic sense. Like the biting comedy bit about the "Argument Clinic" by the 1970s British crew Monty Python's Flying Circus, the argument shows often promise a debate but present merely a dispute and hope audiences don't mind the difference.

If it's done cleverly enough, we don't mind the difference.

Audiences have conditioned the journalistic field to strike — and we in the media have conditioned them to expect — a happy balance between in-depth information and entertaining, audience-grabbing sensationalism.

"In a world ruled by the fear of being boring and anxiety about being amused at all costs, politics is bound to be unappealing, better kept out of prime time as much as possible," Pierre Bourdieu, a leading dissident intellectual in France, wrote in 1996. "So, insofar



as it does have to be addressed, this not very exciting and even depressing spectacle ... has to be made interesting."

As a result, he continued, television in Europe as well as the United States is experiencing "a tendency to shut aside serious commentators and investigative reporters in favor of the talk-show host."

Is that good for democracy? Our ability to rule ourselves is well served when today's information explosion in print, broadcast and on the Internet produces an informed electorate. But sometimes I wonder how well-informed we are when, for example, a mid-October

ber USA Today/CNN/Gallup Poll finds 42 percent of the public thinks Saddam Hussein was involved in the Sept. 11 terror attacks, despite the Bush administration's repeated denials of any such link.

If entertaining news-talk programs excite the appetites of young and old audiences to learn more about current affairs, such media perform an important public service. But if costumed people think any single TV show provides all the news they need, democracy suffers.

Clarence Page is a Chicago Tribune columnist.

Castro's spin indicative of what he's done to Cuba

The Miami Herald

Cuba's tyrant is up to his old tricks. On the mend from an embarrassing fall that broke his knee, the arm last month, Fidel Castro last week tightened the screws on the Cuban people — again.

That's the promise of new policies that will ban purchases with U.S. dollars and impose a 10 percent tax on converting dollars — not euros or francs — into usable Cuban currency. While this will tighten Castro's control of the economy and satisfy other regime needs, the hardship will only increase for ordinary Cubans who make \$10 a month, if not less.

Dollars have been the island's prime currency since the regime legalized them in 1993 after the economic crisis that came with the end of Soviet subsidies. U.S. remittances and travel are Cuba's major sources of U.S. currency. While a minority of Cubans receive dollars from their U.S. relatives, others earn them doing odd jobs such as providing car rides, manicures and services for tourists, which the regime considers illegal.

Los fulas, as dollars are called, are prized because they can purchase items that Cuban pesos can't buy: TVs, fans, food and better-quality items sold only in hard-currency government stores.

The new dollar ban comes in the midst of another profound economic crisis. The U.S. State Department estimates that Cuba has lost \$100 million in revenues since new restrictions on U.S. travel and remittances to the island took effect in June. The regime already had raised prices in its hard-currency stores by 30 percent. Power blackouts have become daily reminders of the dictatorship's economic failure. Losses from recent hurricanes didn't help, either.

The move may be a desperate attempt to bring more dollars into the regime's coffers and resolve a debt crunch. If so, it will be short-lived. The regime may get a windfall as Cubans rush to convert their dollars before the 10 percent surcharge is imposed on Nov. 8. But that bonanza will quickly dry up if higher costs discourage purchases, remittances and visits. Meanwhile, there's no policy to spur new income, jobs or productivity.

Instead of reforms for growth, Castro increases totalitarian control and suffocates the economy. Hurt most will be the Cuban people. It's hard to imagine how ordinary Cubans will manage the increasing misery. Castro has dug them into an economic black hole, and there is no light in sight.

But this dictator isn't concerned with Cubans suffering. Castro's prime goal is to stay in power. With the dollar policy, he again tries to blame U.S. sanctions for the economic woes that he created. He also hopes to divert attention from his fall and questions that it raised, even within Cuba's ruling elites, about his ability to rule. Reformers within Cuba, and their supporters abroad, must keep pushing for change at the top.

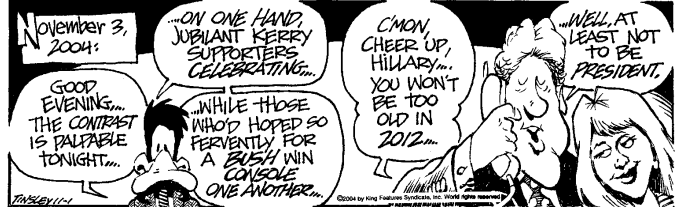
BY BRUCE TINSLEY

Mallard Fillmore



CUBAN TV/AP

Cuban President Fidel Castro, with his arm in a sling, is seen on Cuban TV on Oct. 25 in Havana for the first time since his fall.



CUBAN TV/AP

Blast outside Chechen hospital injures 17

BY SERGEI VENVYASKI
The Associated Press

ROSTOV-ON-DON, Russia — A car bomb exploded outside the Chechen capital's main hospital Sunday, wounding 17 people in an attack apparently targeting members of a security force headed by the son of Chechnya's slain Kremlin-backed president, emergency officials said.

Another car bomb exploded near a Russian military checkpoint on the outskirts of the capital, Grozny, and wounded one man, said Maj. Igor Golubenko, a duty officer for the southern Russian headquarters of the Emergency Situations Ministry in Rostov-on-Don.

Car bomb apparently aimed at local security forces

Earlier, Golubenko said the explosion appeared to have been caused by a mine.

Russian media, citing Chechen Interior Ministry sources, said the car bomb on the outskirts of the capital happened first, then as the injured were being carried into the hospital, another bomb went off.

Golubenko said he couldn't confirm that scenario, but he said the information was being checked.

In the hospital blast, a car packed with explosives detonated, blowing a crater into the

ground and breaking the glass windows in hospital No. 9.

Thirteen of the wounded were members of the Chechen presidential security service, headed by Chechen First Deputy Prime Minister Ramzan Kadyrov. Three other victims were hospital workers. The security service officers appeared to have been the target, Golubenko said. One child was also injured, he said.

The blast at the checkpoint injured one person, Golubenko said.

A Federal Security Service spokesman, Maj. Gen. Ilya Sha-

bakin, said that one person was killed and three others were wounded in that blast, according to the Russian media. It was not immediately possible to reconcile the conflicting accounts.

Kadyrov's force, believed to number 2,000-4,000 men, is responsible for combating the rebels who have been fighting Russian rule for close to a decade. But they are widely feared by Chechen civilians and have been accused of severe abuses ranging from kidnappings to robberies.

Kadyrov's father Akhmad, the

Kremlin-backed president, was assassinated in a bombing at Grozny's stadium during a May celebration of the anniversary of the end of World War II.

Separatist rebels pushed Russian troops out of Chechnya in 1996, following a brutal 20-month war that left the region de facto independent. Troops returned in the fall of 1999 after rebels raided the neighboring province of Dagestan and after a series of apartment house bombings that Russian officials blamed on the rebels.

Rebels have denied any part in those blasts, but radical rebel leader Shamil Basayev has claimed responsibility for a series of major terrorist attacks since.

Footage of kidnapped election staff airs

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Militants released a video Sunday showing three frightened foreign U.N. hostages pleading for their release, and threatened to kill them unless United Nations and British troops leave Afghanistan and Muslim prisoners are freed from U.S. jails.

In the tape, the hostages — Annetta Flanagan of Northern Ireland, Filipino diplomat Angelina Nayan and Shippe Habibi of Kosovo — are shown sitting hunched together against the bare wall of a room in an undisclosed location, answering questions from someone who is speaking to them in broken English from off camera. Both women are crying, but the trio looked healthy and unharmed.

The man repeatedly asks them why they have come to Afghanistan, then asks why America and NATO have sent troops to Afghanistan and Iraq.

"We have nothing to do with America," Nayan says calmly. "We are here for the Afghan people" and she adds later "We all want to go home to our families. We are United Nations workers. We want to go home to our kids and to our parents."

Habibi explains that she is from Kosovo, but her abductor seems unsure where that is.

"It is a Muslim country," she says. "I thought I could help a Muslim country and I just want to go home and see my brother."

All three hostages appear frightened. Their interviewer at several points seems to try to reassure them, saying to Flanagan: "Don't cry. Why you cry?"

But he repeatedly, and sometimes sharply asks them what they are doing in Afghanistan, and does not seem to understand their answers.

Toward the end of the 15-minute video, obtained by AP in neighboring Pakistan, the interviewer appears to ask Flanagan to cry for the camera, to which she replies: "I have



French soldiers from International Security Assistance Force patrol in a residential area of Kabul, Afghanistan's capital, on Saturday. Afghan forces and NATO troops have mounted extra patrols and roadblocks since a Filipino diplomat and two U.N. workers were kidnapped on Thursday.

cried and cried and I can't cry anymore."

Finally after 15 minutes, Nayan asks: "Are we going to be released?" and the tape ends.

Jaish-ul-Muslimeen, which claims seized the trio on Thursday in Kabul, said it made the tape and would execute the hostages unless the United Nations and British troops leave Afghanistan.

Ishaq Manzoor, a spokesman for the group, told The Associated Press on Sunday that the hostages would be killed in three days if their demands were not met.

"Like in Iraq, the U.N. has to leave," Manzoor said in a satellite telephone call.

The group's purported leader, Akbar Agha, insisted later that it had set no deadline. "But we do want an early response to our demands," he said.

Manzoor said the kidnappers were not demanding the release of all Muslim prisoners from U.S. custody in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and from Bagram, the main American base north of Kabul.

He claimed the group was negotiating with the Afghan government but declined to elaborate.

Officials at the presidential palace could not be reached immediately for comment.

Armed men kidnapped the three in Kabul on Thursday, stirring fears that Afghan militants were copying the bloody tactics of their Iraqi counterparts.

'Suicide bomber' turns out to be covert U.S. agent

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — An American agent hidden inside a head-to-toe veil sparked fear of a suicide attack in the Afghan capital Sunday by fleeing from police who tried to search her at a city park, officials said.

Police initially thought the woman, who was carrying a bag under her traditional Afghan burqa, was laden with explosives when she tried to enter the Bagh-e-Zanana gardens, officials said.

But an official with the NATO-run security force that scrambled patrols to the area said it appeared the woman had panicked because her bag contained a pistol.

"It's all been resolved amicably," the official said, on the condition he not be named.

An Afghan police officer said the woman had been brought to the Interior Ministry for a post-mortem on the embarrassing mixup.

When confronted at the park, the woman apparently retreated to a four-wheel-drive vehicle parked nearby.

Neither the woman involved in the incident nor the American security agency she was working for were identified.

Pakistan dismisses speculation that bin Laden is nearby

BY PAUL HAVEN
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — The envelope containing terror mastermind Osama bin Laden's latest message to the world was dropped into a letter box in an upscale neighborhood of the Pakistani capital, the second purported al-Qaida video to come out of this nation in little over a week.

Officials cautioned on Saturday that the tape's release to the Arabic television channel Al-Jazeera's Islamabad office does not prove that bin Laden is in Pakistan.

But its appearance was nonetheless an embarrassment to a nation that bills itself as a key ally in Washington's war on terror, and that has spent months focusing its troops on a swath of tribal communities along the Afghan-Pakistan border where the fugitive al-Qaida leader reportedly has been hiding.

Pakistan has sent tens of thousands of troops to the long and porous border with Afghanistan, concentrating on forbidding North and South Waziristan, where bin Laden and his top deputy, Egyptian surgeon Ayman al-Zawahiri, both are believed to be hiding.

Scores of soldiers and civilians have been killed, but the operations so far have not netted any major fugitives, leading to charges that the sweeps are conducted as a political show to curry favor with Washington, which has given Islamabad billions of dollars in aid since President Gen. Pervez Musharraf threw his support behind the anti-terror effort.

Bin Laden appeared far healthier in the video released Friday than many would have suspected, considering speculation that he already was ailing in the winter of 2001 when U.S. Afghan and Pakistani forces first dragged him. U.S. officials often have described him as holed up in a dank and dreary cave, all but cut off from the outside world.

Pakistani officials were quick to move into damage-control mode on Saturday, saying they had no idea how Al-Jazeera got the tape, and insisting its existence did not prove the terror leader was here.

Maj. Gen. Shaikat Sultan, the army spokesman, said the intention of Pakistan's military was in North and South Waziristan would make it impossible for bin Laden to hide there.

"Even if the tape was dropped here, that doesn't mean that he is here," Sultan said. "Nobody knows where he is, but he cannot be in Pakistan's tribal areas because of the presence of so many troops."

Added Interior Minister Aftab Khan Sherpao: "I don't think he is in Pakistan."

Talib Massoud, a defense analyst and former Pakistani general, said bin Laden probably was in Pakistan, despite the official denials, and that he could be either in the sprawling Pakistani port city of Karachi or well cared for by followers in the tribal region.

The notion that he has the courage to come out shows he feels protected in his surroundings," Massoud said. His healthy appearance "shows that he is probably living in reasonable comfort and he is being taken care of."

Ukrainian vote raises fear, unrest for voters



Ukrainian former prime minister and presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko casts his ballot as his daughters Khrysytyna, left, and Sofia, bottom right, look on at a polling station in Kiev on Sunday. The election is being viewed as a test of democracy in the ex-Soviet republic and an indicator of whether Ukraine will strengthen its historical links with neighboring Russia or push for closer integration with the West.

By ALEKSANDAR VASOVIC
The Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Ukrainians cast ballots in a presidential election Sunday that has raised fears of post-election unrest in this ex-Soviet republic, and the opposition complained of election violations just hours into the voting.

The vote is seen as a key test of democracy in this nation of 48 million people and as an indicator of what direction Ukrainians will choose for their nation, which has cultivated ties with the West and neighboring Russia.

Western countries have repeatedly issued calls for the elections to be free and fair, and the United States has raised the prospect of punitive actions if the voting is marred by irregularities.

The key contenders to lead Ukraine for the next five years are Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko, who is backed by incumbent Leonid Kuchma and inclined to cultivate closer relations with the Kremlin, and former Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko, a reformer interested in pushing Ukraine closer to western Europe.

Hours after voting began, Yushchenko's allies reported alleged election violations, including the expulsion of opposition observers from polling stations in eastern Ukraine. Ahead of voting, the opposition also complained of intimidation and fears of vote-rigging.

In the southern city of Odessa, an opposition official and the head of a local polling station were beaten by police, Yushchenko's campaign said.

Authorities in the eastern city of Zaporizhzhia banned all protests after the end of balloting.

"These are the government's last desperate moves," said Irina Heraschenko, a Yushchenko spokeswoman.

About 147,000 police were on duty and thousands of additional security forces were assigned to the capital. Police also erected a cordon of metal barriers around the Central Election Commission building. Four water cannons and at least two armored fighting vehicles, a fire truck and an ambulance stood ready, and dozens of elite security troops were patrolling the area.

Yanukovich, after casting his vote at a polling station in a dancing school, said, "Today the government did everything for the peaceful conduct of the vote."

After casting his ballot in downtown Kiev, Yushchenko said he was confident of a first-round victory. "That's because God and justice are with us,"

Fearing clashes with pro-government groups or police, Yushchenko's campaign canceled protests it had scheduled for Sunday and called on supporters to monitor vote counting instead.

After years of post-Soviet economic chaos, Ukraine has recently shown strong economic growth, primarily in its heavy industry sector. Both candidates have promised to push for even more growth in the country where millions still live in poverty. Despite a 70 percent increase in September, monthly pensions still average only about \$52.

With a total of 24 candidates on the ballot, neither Yushchenko nor Yanukovich is expected to get the 50 percent needed for a first-round victory, and the top two vote recipients would have to compete in a Nov. 21 runoff.

Malaysian dissident returns home

By SEAN YOONG
The Associated Press

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Malaysia's most charismatic dissident Anwar Ibrahim — released two months ago from jail — kicked off his political comeback Sunday, vowing to restart a campaign for democratic reforms and racial equality.

But Anwar also extended an olive branch to his foes in the government. "I will not have the attitude of being an enemy with anyone. I would like to reduce rancorous exchanges in our politics of enmity," he said.

Some 1,000 followers cheered loudly and chanted "Reformasi" — the slogan of his political reform movement — as Anwar emerged from Kuala Lumpur International Airport after a trip to Germany for back surgery and a pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia.

In a clear sign that the government would not allow Anwar's return to the limelight to be easy, police built roadblocks to try to prevent supporters from massing at the airport and the government refused to issue a permit for a welcome rally at a soccer stadium.

"Don't think that just because Anwar Ibrahim is free, everything is settled," Anwar said in a speech later to hundreds of supporters at his house.

"The release of Anwar is the beginning of a new chapter. In this



Malaysia's former Deputy Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim gestures from a car as he leaves the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang, Sunday. Anwar returned home Sunday from Saudi Arabia after a two-month trip that earlier took him to Germany for back surgery.

chapter we must defend the fate of all people in Malaysia and ensure that our leaders are not arrogant and greedy," said the 57-year-old former deputy prime minister.

But he promised not to take to the streets. In 1998, after then-Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad fired him from the government and the ruling United Malays National Organization, Anwar led tens of thousands of people in rallies calling for the ouster of Mahathir, his former mentor and longtime colleague.

Anwar was subsequently arrested, tried and sentenced to 15 years in jail on sodomy and corruption charges.

A court recently overturned the sodomy charge and he was freed from jail on Sept. 2 because he had already served his corruption conviction. He left for Germany on Sept. 4.

The corruption conviction means Anwar cannot hold a public post until 2008 although he has been named special adviser to the opposition People's Justice Party, which his wife started when he was in jail.

Anwar said he would seek out a meeting as soon as possible with Mahathir's successor, Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who completed one year in office Sunday.

The meeting would be to discuss "a new approach in Malaysian politics with the agenda of change and reform," Anwar said, referring to Abdullah's less-combative style in contrast to Mahathir.

He later told reporters that he wants to ask Abdullah to allow greater democratic freedoms, including judicial and media independence. He also wants to discuss problems such as poverty, corruption and race relations.

"We want to create a Malaysia that truly stands for justice and goes beyond the interests of just one race or party. We will need the support of everyone," Anwar said, referring to the government's policy of giving special privileges to the majority Malays over Chinese and Indians.

Anwar said he also hoped to assist in efforts to encourage "engagement between Islam and the West."

Israeli army dogs run treadmills for exercise

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel's army, fresh from expressing concern about the expanding waistlines of its soldiers, is addressing a new issue — keeping its dogs in shape.

The current edition of Bamahe, the soldier's weekly, says that the army dogs don't get enough exercise in the winter because of rainy weather.

In September, Bamahe reported that 57 percent of the soldiers in Israel's professional army are overweight. The military chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Moshe Yaalon, has required all officers to pass a physical fitness test.

Dogs in the "Oketz" unit are used as trackers and to sniff out

explosives, as well as other tasks that are classified.

The "Oketz" soldiers and dogs used to exercise together, but the dogs tracked too much on the training road, the article said, leading to a decision to separate them.

Each dog has an individual training program, with an average of 20-30 minutes of exercise a week, the weekly said.

"The dogs enjoy the fitness training and release a lot of aggression," Capt. Lior, deputy commander of the unit, told the weekly, giving only his first name according to military regulations.

For now, the training room for the furry fighters has only two treadmills, but the Defense Ministry has put out a tender for more equipment.

Australia eyes Islamic inmates

The Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia — Prison authorities in New South Wales state are monitoring some inmates who have converted to Islam in jail, for fear they might try to plan terrorist attacks from behind bars, the state government said Sunday.

Several prisoners have been put under surveillance because they converted to Islam for "sinister" and threatening purposes, Justice Minister John Hatzistergis said, adding that some long-term inmates had shown "a sense of joy" at news of terror attacks.

"There is no plot that we are aware of that any of these inmates have engaged in which

threatens the security of the system ... or the broader community," Hatzistergis told reporters in Sydney.

Several prisoners are open about their support for al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden, Ron Woodham, who oversees the New South Wales prison system, told The Sunday Telegraph.

Hatzistergis said authorities have banned one Muslim cleric from visiting inmates in New South Wales prisons after they tried to recruit him as a chaplain last year.

Authorities intercept and copy mail, monitor phone calls and vet the visitors of those prisoners who are considered a high security risk, Woodham told the newspaper.

Flu shot law

NJ TRENTON — Gov. James E. McGreevey has signed legislation that would steer flu vaccines to at-risk people and allow fines against health care providers who give the shots to those less vulnerable.

The measure sets a \$500 civil fine against doctors and others who vaccinate people at low risk for flu complications. A handful of other states impose a range of penalties, including jail time, for such actions.

The law also helps health officials assess the state's supply to get the vaccine to the most at-risk people. Supporters say the legislation was needed because most of the vaccine orders in the state were made by private entities and outside government control.

The law followed recent reports that hundreds of teachers and casino workers had received shots.

Discrimination lawsuit

CA LOS ANGELES — A group trying to prevent closure of the trauma center at an inner-city medical center filed a discrimination lawsuit, alleging the county is trying to dismantle the troubled hospital.

The nonprofit group Friends of Martin Luther King Jr./Drew Medical Center Inc., which includes patients, doctors and community residents, accused Los Angeles County and its health department of violating the U.S. Constitution's equal protection clause and the 1964 Civil Rights Act, as well as Medicare and Medicaid regulations and various state laws.

"The hospital and trauma center 'have not been dealt with fairly nor have the racial minorities they serve,'" attorney Mark Ravis said in a statement.

The lawsuit asks the court to bar the closure of the trauma center, prevent further hospital cuts and restore services already eliminated.

Obscenity guilty plea

LA COVINGTON — The founder of a summer camp for children with cerebral palsy pleaded guilty to exposing himself three times to teenage girls working at Mandeville coffee shops.

Michael Lavie entered pleas to three counts of felony obscenity. Judge William Knight placed him on probation for five years and ordered him to undergo counseling.

High-tech protection

IL SPRINGFIELD — Crews have begun installing metal detectors and X-ray machines at the Illinois Capitol as part of an attempt to improve security after a guard was shot and killed in September.

State officials, lobbyists, staff and journalists with state identification badges won't have to be scanned, but everyone else will, said Dave Drucker of the secretary of state's office.

"You want to be able to treat everybody equally," Drucker said. "But the fact is you wouldn't want a situation where a legislator has 10 minutes to get in the building for a vote, and he has to stand in line for 20 minutes because a tour bus just pulled up."

Security guard William Wozniak, 51, was killed Sept. 20 by



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

a gunman inside the Capitol. A man with a history of mental illness was charged with murder.

Fireworks show nixed

DC WASHINGTON — It was too expensive for the Smithsonian Museum to circle the Washington Monument with an explosion of fireworks designed by Cai Guo-Qiang — his preferred form of art.

So he settled for a show, opening at the Hirshhorn Museum, of nine big drawings, made by setting off small quantities of gunpowder along lines on paper sketches.

Kristen Hileman, curator of the exhibit called "Unlucky Year — Unrealized Projects 2003-2004," said the fireworks did not fit into the show's theme. She declined to discuss figures.

Judge prevents write-in

UT SALT LAKE CITY — A judge refused to let the Republican Party replace Salt Lake County's mayor, who is accused of misusing public funds, with a write-in candidate on the ballot.

On Oct. 12, Mayor Nancy Workman had stepped aside as a candidate in the Nov. 2 election, citing the then-pending felony charges and her emotional health. But Judge Stephen Henrich said fellow Republican Ellis Ivory cannot take Workman's place on the ballot because the doctor's note she cited in claiming health problems was too ambiguous.



Fall walk

A lone pedestrian walks through New York City's Central Park under a fall palette of yellow and gold leaves.

County officials said they would appeal the decision, and the Utah Supreme Court already set time for arguments in the case, suggesting the issue could be resolved in time for Election Day.

DNA indictment

NY NEW YORK — A career criminal faces robbery and sexual assault charges after becoming the first person arrested in the state on an indictment based solely on DNA.

David Martinez, 46, was arrested on charges that he robbed a German exchange student of \$27 at gunpoint in 1996 and tried to rape her in a subway station.

In 2001, prosecutors used DNA from semen found on the woman's clothing to draw up a three-count indictment, which uses DNA samples to charge and unknown sexual attacker before the statute of limitations expires.

The indictment charges Martinez with robbery, attempted rape and sexual abuse. District Attorney Robert Morgenthau said Martinez faces 15 years to life in prison if convicted.

Possible fish permit cuts

AK ANCHORAGE — A new state report recommends cutting the number of Bristol Bay fishing permits from the current 1,857 to as few as 500. The study by Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission says the existing number of fishing boats can no longer make a profit. The value of the Bristol Bay fishery has plummeted in recent years with the rise of fish farming.

Voter guides recalled

CA SAN DIEGO — The county registrar recalled thousands of Spanish-language voter guides because of errors in grammar, syntax, spelling and translation. The guides had such sentences as: "People that are registered 29 and 15 days before an election will be commanded a brochure." The guides were translated by county employees in 1999. The county has now contracted out for services.

Candidate's home burns

AL LaFAYETTE — A congressional candidate's antebellum home burned down, and he broke his knee jumping from the second floor.

Bill Fuller, a Democrat who faces an uphill battle against Republican Rep. Mike Rogers, also suffered smoke inhalation, as well as scrapes and bruises from the 15-foot jump into the bushes, said his spokesman, Ken Mullinax.

The home was built in the 1840s and was recently remodeled. "There is no indication of anything other than an accident," said Ragan Ingram, a spokesman for the state fire marshal's office.

Expensive dog bite

IA DES MOINES — Officials are calling a 6-pound Chihuahua named Squirt a vicious dog after he nipped two children.

Neither child was seriously hurt. Owner Laurie Staver must buy a \$100,000 insurance policy or remove her pet from the city. She plans to appeal to the City Council.



Witchy physician

Stephen Tiffen of Oakland, Calif., works his 20-foot-high "Muthamba the Witch Doctor" entry at the Pier House Pretenders in Paradise Costume Competition in Key West, Fla. The Fantasy Fest Parade was expected to attract more than 60,000 revelers.



Over the rainbow

A vivid rainbow arcs over the skyline of downtown Fresno, Calif., after a day of high winds and heavy rains hit the valley.



Tasty treats

Asian elephants (from left) Chendra, Rose and Shine take part in the traditional squishing of the squash as they begin to devour an 880-pound pumpkin at the Oregon Zoo in Portland, Ore.



Staring contest

Jenna McCauley, 2, of Oakville, stares at Peanut Butter, a small donkey at Suson farm in Suson Park, in St. Louis County near Oakville, Mo.



Marching to the beat

Allison Martinez, center, and other members of the Americas High School marching band, practice twirling maneuvers with swords and rifles in El Paso, Texas.



It's Tinkerbell!

Clad in a her Tinkerbell ensemble, clerk Judy Boyett processes legal documents in her cubicle in the County Civil department of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Manatee County Courthouse in Bradenton, Fla.



Artistic turtle

David Schaffer, 4, dressed as a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle, colors a Happy Halloween banner at the Farmers Market in New Bern, N.C., after he and about 200 other preschool children marched in a parade through the city's historic district.

Grave robber acquitted

OR MEDFORD — Amateur archaeologist Jack Lee Harelson was acquitted on two counts of trying to hire a hitman to kill people involved in his 1996 conviction for robbing ancient Indian graves in the Nevada desert.

But after deliberating for 10 hours over two days, the Jackson County Circuit Court jury said it could not reach a verdict in four other counts in the murder-for-hire case. The jury did find Harelson guilty on two counts of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Prosecutor Tim Barnack said authorities would retry the four counts left unresolved.

Harelson, who showed little reaction as Judge Lorenzo Mejia read the verdicts, was stunned by the outcome, said defense attorney Bob Abel.

Tuition increase

IA DES MOINES — Tuition for Iowa undergraduate students at the state's three universities would increase by 4 percent next year under a proposal to be considered next week by the Iowa Board of Regents. It would be the lowest increase in more than a decade.

Tuition at the University of Iowa, Iowa State University and the University of Northern Iowa would go up by about \$200 to around \$5,600 a year.

Capital gets a Target

DC WASHINGTON — The nation's capital is about to get its first Target. Mayor Anthony Williams announced that the company signed an agreement to buy land for a store in the Columbia Heights neighborhood. Groundbreaking is expected in spring of 2005, with the store likely to open in late 2007.

No 'Frankenpine'

NY ALBANY — The Adirondack Council declared victory when a plan by Nextel Partners to build a 114-foot cell phone tower in the Adirondacks was withdrawn. The environmental group dubbed the tower "Frankenpine" because it attempted to use fake branches and color to resemble a towering pine tree.

Airport bomb scare

MS JACKSON — Authorities said no charges will be filed against an unidentified man whose carry-on briefcase at Jackson International Airport provoked a bomb scare. Hundreds of people were ordered out of the airport Oct. 7, and flights were delayed. After the briefcase was destroyed, officials found scraps of wires, a telephone battery, tweezers and a cassette player.

Teen guilty of 3 deaths

WI RICHLAND CENTER — A judge found an Illinois teen guilty of gunning down his parents and uncle at a southwestern Wisconsin farmhouse, rejecting claims that he was insane when he committed the murders. The judge said Steven Tomporowski faked

his mental illness to try to escape punishment. He said Tomporowski's bizarre behavior could be explained by his heavy use of LSD.

Billionaire to build village

CO SOUTH FORK — Mineral County commissioners have approved zoning plans for a controversial village proposed by Texas billionaire B.J. "Red" McCombs near the Wolf Creek Ski Area.

Opponents, including the ski area owners, say the development will ruin the no-frills nature of the area.

Frozen body not criminal

WA SPOKANE — It may seem creepy, but it's not necessarily a crime to keep a corpse in the freezer, police say.

A 59-year-old man walked into the Public Safety Building to ask what he should do with the dead woman's body he had stashed in a chest-style freezer, Capt. Bruce Roberts said.

Detectives who responded to the Chateaux Apartments found the body of a 57-year-old woman inside the freezer, he said.

Police did not identify the man but said he was the woman's caregiver. He told them he arrived at the woman's apartment about a week ago and found her dead, then put her in the freezer.

"His underlying motivation, at least what he told us, was he wanted to preserve her dignity," Roberts said. "It's unique and unusual, but at this point there is nothing criminal."

The man was sent to a hospital for a mental evaluation.

Rename the ice cream

MA ARLINGTON — Brigham's, an Arlington-based ice cream maker, is looking to the public for help in renaming its "Reverse the Curse" flavor, made obsolete by the Red Sox World Series win.

People can vote for one of four names: "Curse Reversed," "Believe It," "Sox Rock," and "Penway Faithfuls." The company debuted the flavor earlier this year.

School plot alleged

UT VERNAL — Four students have been arrested after authorities uncovered an alleged plot to kill classmates, teachers and parents at a high school.

Authorities described the scheme as a "pretty serious plot" in the planning stages at Uintah High School, sheriff's deputy Robert Roth said.

No details were being released about the suspects, who were arrested but have not been formally charged.

Police who searched the suspects' homes said the students had access to weapons and had downloaded material from the Internet with bomb-making instructions.

Investigators also discovered "hit lists" naming at least 10 victims, including other students, teachers and some of the suspects' parents, Roth said.

Stories and photos from wire services

FACES

Rimes to host new 'Nashville Star' season

LeAnn Rimes will host the third season of USA Network's "Nashville Star."



Rimes

Rimes, who performed as a special guest on the show's second season finale in May, succeeds Nancy O'Dell, USA Network announced.

"As a singer and songwriter, I have great admiration for many of the budding stars who come to try their hand at performing and can relate to the hopes and aspirations of all the contestants, no matter how good or bad," Rimes said in a statement posted on her Web site.

The reality talent show pits country music singing hopefuls against each other in an "American Idol"-style competition. The first episodes of the third season are set to begin airing on March 25.

Rimes' aunt Melissa Bagwell said her niece's schedule fits in with the taping demands of the popular country series. Rimes, a native of Pearl, lives in Nashville, Tenn., where the show is based, with her husband, Dean Sheremet.

Naked portrait estimated to make \$6.4M

Lucian Freud's portrait of a naked, pregnant Kate Moss is expected to fetch up to \$6.4 million when it is auctioned next year, Christie's auction house said.

The near-life-size portrait of the supermodel, "Naked Portrait 2002," will be included in a Christie's sale of post-war and contemporary art on Feb. 9. It is being sold by an unnamed private collector, the auction house said.

Freud, 81, is considered by many to be Britain's greatest living artist, and his sitters have ranged from friends and family to Queen Elizabeth II.

The artist, a grandson of psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud, has said he prefers to paint his models naked because "I can see more; see the forms repeating right through the body and often in the head as well."

"One of the most exciting things is seeing through the skin, to the blood and veins and markings."

'Godfather' stars top British poll

Robert De Niro and Al Pacino have topped a British magazine's poll of the greatest living movie stars over the age of 50.

The two stars of the "Godfather" saga took the top two places in a poll of 10,000 readers of British film magazine Empire. The poll was released Thursday.

Jack Nicholson, Paul Newman and Marlon Brando — who died in July before voting was complete — took third, fourth and fifth spots.

Anthony Hopkins, in sixth place, was the highest placed British actor, and "Alien" star Sigourney Weaver, in 10th place, the top-rated woman.



Pacino

Shriver falls victim to Sox curse

The curse of the Bambino wasn't the only thing that was shattered during the Boston Red Sox's championship run.

Faithful Red Sox fan Maria Shriver broke her foot. California's first lady injured herself while watching the fifth playoff game between Boston and the New York Yankees. The Red Sox, who had been down three games, went on to win the next four and advance to the World Series.

When the Sox's David Ortiz smacked a 14th-inning single, an excited Shriver jumped off the sofa — landing on one of her children's car wheels and breaking her foot.

"She was hollering at her kids to pick up their misplaced shoes, but she's realized her instructions fell on deaf ears," spokeswoman Terri Carbaugh said.

"It goes to show it's easier to ... defeat the curse of the Bambino than it is to get one's child to do as (he or she) is told, as most mothers can relate to."

Stories and photos from wire services

GROWING PAINS

Evanescence singer Amy Lee pushes through a band rift and proves women can be a big draw in the rock world

BY CARYN ROUSSEAU
The Associated Press

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Evanescence has sold more than 10 million copies of its debut album and won two Grammys, but it hasn't been easy for lead singer Amy Lee.

She endured a violent split with her lead guitarist and a battle with radio stations nationwide that believe women can't rock. Now, after finishing a huge tour, Lee finds herself back where she started — writing the lyrics that catapulted an Arkansas rock band to the world stage.

Lee was 14 when she founded the rock band with Ben Moody after they met at summer camp. They wrote music together and played at small Little Rock venues before landing a deal with Wind-up Records, which released "Fallen" in the spring of 2003.

Moody abruptly left the band about seven months later, leaving Lee to work on Evanescence's sophomore effort. But this time it will have to be different.

Lee is the words of Evanescence's music. Moody was the music. She says not having him around this time gives her liberty.

"Ben has a certain kind of pop structure that he follows that I wouldn't," the 22-year-old singer said backstage before her tour wrapped up in August with a hometown Little Rock show. "He would always be corralling my ideas. It's going to be cool this time to have more freedom, just in that there's more people writing like a real band. Everybody's involved and we have a good successful album under our belt, so there's less pressure."

Less pressure too, with Moody working with pop stars Kelly Clarkson and Avril Lavigne on several movie soundtracks.

"When Ben left the band we were all relieved," she said quietly. "It was a really uncomfortable situation for everybody."

"It was completely unstable and unhappy. It was a scary time before he left the band because I knew something was going to happen and I didn't know what and I was afraid everything we worked for had the potential of going down the toilet."

There's no word on when the next album will be released. Lee hopes to quell fans' demands for new material with a DVD release of tour footage, possibly around Thanksgiving.

The demands of nonstop touring kept Lee from writing, but for fans the treat of seeing an Evanescence show may stave off the desire for new material. To see the band on stage is to realize how unique it really is in today's pop-heavy music scene.

The most recent tour had Evanescence topping a bill that also featured rock band Seether, headed by Lee's boyfriend, Shaun Morgan. At the last show in North Little Rock, she knelt backstage as Seether played, cheering and clapping for the band, crawling forward to get a hair lock before walking onstage for a duet of "Broken," which she and Morgan wrote.

When Evanescence comes on, Lee is a woman elsewhere. Her long black hair flies everywhere as she jumps and pumps her fist in the air to punch the meaning of her lyrics home. Her haunting wail and strong voice echo in the arena

she's finished singing.

"When you get up there ... you just draw a blank and zone out and become Evanescence," she said.

Her magic is an ability to draw her fans into the music. A piano rises from the stage and the crowd quiets as she sits and plays her solo — no singing. The audience slowly begins to go wild — a rarity today of teenagers and 20-somethings cheering for piano riffs instead of bare midriffs. And the thing is, she wrote it herself.

That, some argue, makes Lee a strong role model for women.

"I never saw myself as a role model. It's a word I hear a lot now," she said.

"What am I going to say? I'm a good role model? I make tons of mistakes. It's funny. You always have a vision for your music and you think, 'Who's going to like it?' And 14-year-old girls are never what I had in mind. But I think that's awesome."

Being a woman heading up a rock band has given Evanescence a unique sound, but it didn't come easily. Rock radio wouldn't play the band at first.

"Program directors and DJs would hear the track and just turn it off," Lee said. "They would say 'What are you doing with a chick on a piano? Go take this somewhere else.'"

Eventually a few stations relented and fans reacted to the music.

"I like to think that it's because I'm coming from a place where a lot of people are," she said. "Everybody feels the same feelings all around the world. Everyone has the same biological makeup. I think it's cool for people to hear somebody talking about something they've been through and understand. I hope people like our music because it's real music, a real experience."

Her inspiration comes from trying to understand tragedy, Lee says, and learning how to deal with it. She moved around a lot when she was young and says she didn't fit in when she came to Arkansas at age 13.

"I think there's a lot of closed-mindedness here in the South," she said. "There's a certain set of views that a big majority of the people here have and if you don't follow their views exactly then you're an outcast. I remember a lot of times feeling like an outcast."

Lee calls Los Angeles home now, where she says she paints and designs her own clothes.

"I've always been an artist, like a painter. I sew my own skirt because I couldn't find what I was looking for kind of person," she said. "I don't consider myself like a fashion designer. I do have a little dream that someday maybe I could open a store in Seattle. But I'd only make one of each thing."

"I just don't like repeating myself."

AP

Amy Lee's band Evanescence sold more than 10 million copies of its debut album "Fallen."



Shriver



after



Horoscope

The moon in Cancer produces some strangely coincidental happenings. You only have to ask a few questions to find out how connected you are to people you hardly know. But what does it all mean? Is serendipity a sign that you should pursue a closer relationship with someone or make one choice over another? Most likely, YES!

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(Nov. 1). Your biggest ideas are completed this year! Keep working your plan—and if you don't have one, creating one this week is extremely lucky. Partners are attracted to your drive in December. Don't change your strategy. Do what you do well, and in January, new opportunities give you reason to reassess. A Virgo or Taurus romance heals you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Sometimes, you're inspired, so you do the work. Other times, you do the work, and the inspiration comes later or never comes. Unfortunately, the latter is truer today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Stop fretting about a decision, and just make it. When the difference is big, you know what to choose, and when the difference is small, it does not really matter what you choose.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). A quandary is featured. You can't leave everything you need to know from books. Someone's personal experience will teach you more about the subtleties you're facing.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Friends seem to have attention deficit disorder. It's annoying to say the least, but nothing to take personally.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Someone will respond in kind to your recent good deed. This should make you feel like you're making a difference in the world. If it doesn't, then it's time to give yourself a little more credit.

Joyce Jillson



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You've got to be shrewd to figure out the bottom line now because it's not what you think. People who appear to be in charge really aren't. And the seeming low man on the totem pole could indeed hold all of the power.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). An invitation in the mail or a request could cause you to reconsider just how close you'd like to be with someone—or do you even want to be a part of this person's life at all?

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If you look up the horizon, you'll see a situation in the distance that is steadily but surely coming your way. Start planning now because if you wait until this entity is at your doorstep, you'll make a rash and impractical decision.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). An intense workload is featured, but you're strong with plenty of stamina. Because you stay calm in the face of the "monster," everyone around you throws more work on your pile. Eventually, you'll be rewarded.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You've already made up your mind about what and whom you can support, but there's now a reason to reconsider. You never quite saw it from a certain person's point of view, and once you do, everything is different.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're feeling testy and could even make demands of people in a way that is uncharacteristic of you. But hey, you deserve to see results for your efforts, and if you don't speak up, you may not get the credit.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You may think you're looking for guidance, but what you really need is a cheerleader! You know what you want and how to get it. Someone who keeps you accountable is worth his or her weight in gold.

Calvin and Hobbes



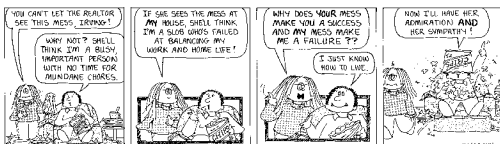
Jump Start



Zits



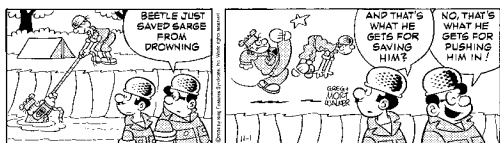
Cathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red Rover



Better or Worse



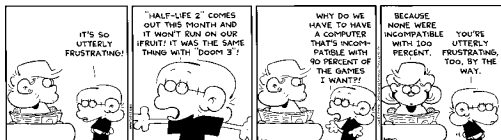
Peanuts



To our readers

For the past decade, this column has been written by Joyce Jillson and Holiday Mathis. Ms. Jillson passed away on Oct. 1. Because Ms. Jillson and Ms. Mathis wrote in advance, columns they prepared will run through Nov. 6. Beginning Nov. 7, the horoscopes will be renamed "Horoscopes by Holiday" and will be authored by Ms. Mathis.

Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



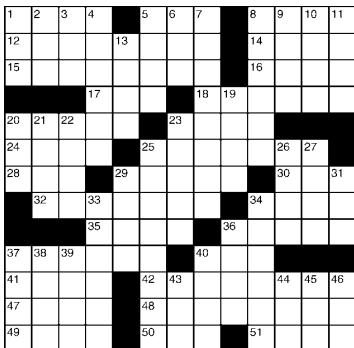
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Prop for Jack and Jill
- 5 Parisian pal
- 8 Sennett of movie lore
- 12 Forgetfulness
- 14 Verve
- 15 Bikini pattern
- 16 Cleo's river
- 17 Double curve
- 18 Baby's attention getter
- 20 HBO bailiwick
- 23 Forum garb
- 24 Pre-swan
- 25 Metaphor for the JFK administration
- 28 Numerical prefix
- 29 Crystal-clear
- 30 A somebody
- 32 Duck sauce ingredient
- 34 Eat in style
- 35 Piece of work
- 36 Automobile type
- 37 "I" trouble?
- 40 Clothing protector
- 41 Sweetheart
- 42 Orange oil used in perfumes
- 47 Writer James
- 48 Dusk period
- 49 Disposition
- 50 Uncivilized

Down

- 1 Cohort of Snap and Crackle
- 2 Blood-type system
- 3 Poorly
- 4 Apt
- 5 Gives a helping hand
- 6 Cattle call
- 7 Insert
- 8 Intellect-related
- 9 Settled down
- 10 Use the phone
- 11 Dangling locale
- 13 Florist's vessel
- 19 On in years
- 20 Director's cry
- 21 Taj Mahal city
- 22 Radar spot
- 23 Mexican entrees
- 25 Potential pickle
- 26 "Metamorphoses" poet
- 27 Ms. Fey of "SNL"
- 29 Mick Jagger trademark
- 31 Corral
- 32 Disturbed
- 34 Forensics battle
- 36 Ink a contract
- 37 Dutch cheese
- 38 Disco-style
- 39 Bread spread
- 40 Make a potion
- 43 Zsa Zsa's sister
- 44 Central
- 45 Praise in verse
- 46 X rating?

Answer to Previous Puzzle



11-1 CRYPTOQUIP

AZK AELTN J XDTTEA CHDJP
WGFE UEGM? ODHZJOU
CDIJLUD ZD IJG'F XWGN

FZD HWMZF PDK.
Saturday's Cryptquip: THE GOOD PHYSICIST, STUDYING THE PERIODIC TABLE, MUST REALLY BE IN HIS ELEMENT.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: A equals W

Trouble adjusting after deployment

Dear Abby: My husband, "Rick," spent a year in Iraq. He has been home for 3½ months. Before his return, the Army gave out a lot of information for us about what to expect upon his arrival — how he might act, how the kids might react. None of it seems to have helped me.

Rick has had no trouble adjusting to being home. He has experienced no serious side effects.

The problem is me. While Rick was gone, I did everything. I took care of our little boy, I handled everything. Now that Rick is home, I'm having a hard time relinquishing how to share MY child and MY house with him. Yes, Abby, I know it's his baby and his house, too.

Rick's deployment was the first time I had ever lived by myself — and I liked it. Now it seems that everything he does is wrong. Things that never used to bother me set me off now. Rick loads the dishwasher wrong and puts the

toilet paper in backward; he drives wrong.

I want our marriage to be successful and happy.

— **Army Wife in North Carolina**

Dear Army Wife: There is nothing "wrong" with you. You are not the only wife who has felt this way. What the Army failed to tell you is that there's a period of readjustment not only for the returning soldier, but also for the spouse who was left behind. The solution lies in communicating your feelings before you explode.

The two of you must learn how to communicate effectively again. Taking time for just the two of you to be together would also be a giant step in the right direction. Both of you have changed during his deployment. If that doesn't improve the situation, consider marriage counseling.

Dear Abby: About a year ago,

Dear Abby



Dad too open with female 'friend'

Dear Annie: I am a 15-year-old young woman. I have known for a long time that my parents weren't happy with each other, and last year, they told me they were going to divorce when I turn 18. I'm trying to deal with that, but here's the problem: Last week, my dad took me to my hair cut, as he does every month. Afterward, as usual, we went to his friend

"Mary's" apartment. Mary is nice enough, but I have never really liked her, partly because she interferes with the time I get to spend with my father. She flirts with him a lot. When I told him I didn't like spending so much time with her, he said he'd limit it, but nothing changed.

So, when we were at Mary's apartment last week, I went upstairs to play on her computer, while she and Dad watched a movie together.

About an hour later, I glanced downstairs and saw Mary rubbing my dad's stomach (and elsewhere), and he didn't stop her.

Annie's Mailbox



I haven't said a word about what I saw. Should I tell my dad or my mom, or keep silent? Should I wait until we go to Mary's apartment again and tell them together? This is starting to tear me up inside, and I get really depressed every time I think about it.

— **The Girl Who Has Seen Too Much**

Dear Seen Too Much: You sound like an intelligent young lady, and you know what is going on here. Talk to Dad directly. Tell him his relationship with Mary makes you uncomfortable and you do not want to squander the father-daughter time you have together by sharing it with her. Also mention that his disregard for what you think witnesses is disrespectful to you and your mother. If, and when, your parents divorce, you can then re-evaluate your relationship with Mary.

Dear Annie: My husband of

a friend of mine passed away. His funeral was more than 1,000 miles away. Because I didn't have much money, another friend called her best friend from high school and asked him to let me stay with him while I attended the funeral.

As a thank-you for his hospitality, I insisted on cooking for him my last night there. We ate together, and at the end of the meal, he begged me not to leave yet. He had fallen in love with me. One year later, we're engaged.

When people ask, "How did you meet?" I tell them it was through a friend, but some people insist on hearing the whole story. Should we make something up? I can't tell people that I met him because of my friend's funeral!

— **J.H. in Yonkers**

DEAR J.H.: Why not? It's a wonderful story. Out of sadness came joy; out of death came life. I consider your love story to be an affirmation — and so should you.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uxpress.com/dearabby>. Universal Service Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BLUYL

CYDEA

CRYLEE

KLARET

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

Ans: " " " "

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argrison



WHEN THE TELEGRAPH OFFICE WAS COMPLETED THE OPERATOR DECLARED IT—

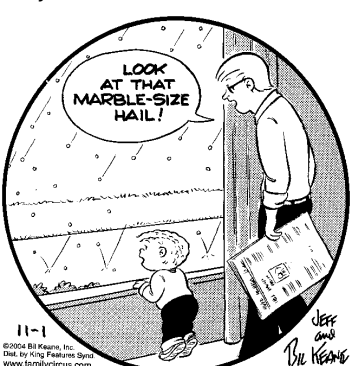
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

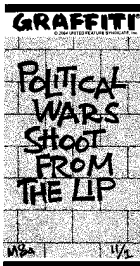
Saturday's Jumbles: PARCH AUDIT INFIRM GASKET

Answer: What the cops used to catch the fence — HIS 'GAIT'

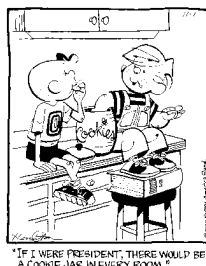
Family Circus



"But they're all white marbles! No colored ones."



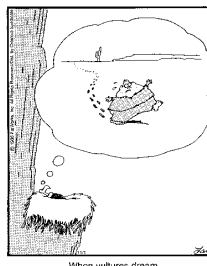
Demis the Menace



"If I were president, there would be a cookie jar in every room."

© Gary Larson

The Far Side



When vultures dream

Non Sequitur



SCOREBOARD

AFN TV & Radio

Monday

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—Golf: Chrysler Championship, final round (Ind.).
AFN-Sports, 7 a.m.—MLB Soccer: Conference semifinals, New England at Columbus (Ind.).

Tuesday

AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.—Figure skating: Smart One State America (Ind.).
AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—NBA: Miami at N.Y. Nets.
AFN-Sports, 3 a.m.—Horse racing: Breeders' cup World Thoroughbred Championship, live coverage (Ind.).
AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—Golf: The Tour Championship, live coverage (Ind.).
AFN-Sports, 11 a.m.—Auto racing: NHRA National Finals, live coverage (Ind.).
AFN-Sports, 11 a.m.—NFL: Miami at N.Y. Jets (Ind.).
AFN-Sports, 7 p.m.—NFL: Miami at N.Y. Jets (Ind.).

All times are Central European Time. Ind. indicates delayed broadcast. All times are subject to change. Some radio broadcasts may be heard in all areas. Visit www.mylife.net for more information.

Pro football

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
New England	10	0	0	1.000	146	89	+57	1	0
N.Y. Jets	9	1	0	.900	127	102	+25	2	0
Miami	8	2	0	.833	162	121	+41	3	0
Jacksonville	5	2	0	.714	122	126	+6	4	0
Houston	7	2	0	.667	133	138	+5	5	0
Indianapolis	6	2	0	.556	138	137	+1	6	0
Pittsburgh	5	2	0	.533	136	144	+8	7	0
Baltimore	4	2	0	.476	117	146	+29	8	0
Cincinnati	3	4	0	.333	106	158	+52	9	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
Denver	9	1	0	.714	149	100	+49	1	0
Kansas City	8	2	0	.667	141	124	+17	2	0
Oakland	7	2	0	.556	141	124	+17	3	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
Philadelphia	6	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	4	0
San Diego	5	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	5	0
Washington	4	4	0	.333	94	95	-1	6	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
New Orleans	4	4	0	.333	94	95	-1	7	0
San Francisco	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	8	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
Carolina	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	9	0
Green Bay	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	10	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
St. Louis	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	11	0
Seattle	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	12	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
San Francisco	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	13	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
Detroit at Dallas	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	14	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
Cincinnati at Tennessee	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	15	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
Indianapolis at Kansas City	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	16	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
Baltimore at Philadelphia	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	17	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
N.Y. Giants at Buffalo	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	18	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
Oakland at San Diego	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	19	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
New England at Pittsburgh	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	20	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
San Francisco at Chicago	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	21	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
New Orleans at New England	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	22	0

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Diff	W	L
Open: Green Bay, Atlanta, Jacksonville, Minnesota at Indianapolis	3	4	0	.1000	171	171	0	23	0

Auto racing

IROC-Crown Royal
Saturday
 At Atlanta Motor Speedway
 Hamilton, Ga.
 Lap length: 1.34 miles
 (Car number in parentheses)
 1. (17) Matt Kenseth, NASCAR Nextel Cup, 65 laps, 72 points, \$1 million.
 2. (7) Ryan Newman, NASCAR Nextel Cup, 65 laps, 68 points, \$800,000.
 3. (47) Danny Laszaki, World of Outlaws, 65 laps, 65 points, \$500,000.
 4. (37) Kurt Busch, NASCAR Nextel Cup, 65 laps, 62 points, \$400,000.
 5. (24) Travis Kviegi, NASCAR Craftsman Truck, 65 laps, \$300,000.
 6. (18) Jimmie Johnson, NASCAR Nextel Cup, 65 laps, \$250,000.
 7. (14) Jeff Burton, IndyCar Series, 65 laps, \$200,000.
 8. (10) Scott Sharp, IndyCar Series, 65 laps, \$150,000.
 9. (1) Scott Sharp, IndyCar Series, 65 laps, \$100,000.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.
San Jose vs. Kansas City
 San Jose 2, Kansas City 0, Kansas City wins series 3-2.

Sunday, Oct. 31
 New England at Columbus, 25, 80,000.
D.C. United vs. MetroStars, Oct. 23
 D.C. United 2, MetroStars 0, D.C. United wins series 2-1.
Los Angeles vs. Colorado
 Colorado 1, Los Angeles 0, Los Angeles wins series 2-1.



JOE GROMELSM/Stars and Stripes

The sun rises over the two Jima Memorial on Sunday as the start of the Marine Corps Marathon draws near. In the foreground are some of the many tents set up around the memorial, where the race finishes.

Feyissa, Bailey are champions in 29th Marine Corps Marathon

Women's title goes to female from Corps for first time

BY SANDRA JONTZ

Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Retta Feyissa's trick: the ability to run after mile after mile after mile. Retta, finishing first in the 29th Annual Marine Corps Marathon, run on Halloween.

The 29-year-old Ethiopian native, who has made the Bronx home for the past year, said it was faith in God and his desire to run for his sponsoring non-profit organization Catholic Charities spurred him to come from behind and win the race in 2 hours, 25 minutes, 34 seconds.

"I like winning all the time," he said of his 11 years of running marathons. "I'm happy."

His shirt bore the Catholic Charities' motto: "Faith Works Wonders." Works for Feyissa, he said. "Catholic Charities is my life. I came to this country [SEEKING] asylum and they find me a job," he said, adding he is a janitor at a nursing home in New York.

In the women's category, active duty Capt. Mary Kate Bailey, 29, made a little history when she came in as the first female Marine to take the top spot with a running time of 02:48:30. She said she knew going in she'd win, if and only if, she paced herself from the very start. That she did, for all 26.2 miles of the race.

"Being active duty, and being a Marine and winning this race, you just don't know the pride I feel," said the logistics officer stationed at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va.

She's from a family of Marines.



JOE GROMELSM/Stars and Stripes

Women's winner Mary Kate Bailey (37) of Arlington, Va., approaches the 16-mile mark on Sunday. Running with her is Victoriano Lopez of Washington D.C. (18B).

Her three brothers are active duty Marine officers, as was her father, who is buried at the sprawling Arlington National Cemetery, near where Sunday's start/finish lines.

"Having dad here made all the difference. I just kept thinking of him," she said at the finish line, set up at the base of the Marine Corps Memorial, honoring all Marines who have given their lives in the defense of the United States since 1775.

Sunday didn't feel like any typical Halloween's Eve in the nation's capital as the balmy and humid 70-degree weather affected some runners more than they anticipated.

Second-place overall finisher, Terrance "Terry" Shea, 30, said the humidity slowed him and consumed more of his energy and made the race difficult, especially after mile 20.

Chris Kaag, 28, came in first in the hand-crank category. Two weeks after his 21st birthday, the former active duty Marine said his legs failed to work properly and his was diagnosed with a nerve disorder similar to muscular dystrophy.

He started Sunday's race looking to finish, never dreaming he'd end up winning his category.

"Guess that's cuz I trained my [butt] off," he said with a chuckle.

Last year's top runner, Peter Sherry, repeated the disappointment he felt in himself.

"I did poorly. Very poorly. I'm a little embarrassed. It just wasn't my day," said the three-time marathon runner who came in 16th overall.

But when he saw his 5-year-old daughter, Kelsey, and hoisted her into his lap, sent the disappointment melted.

"The only reason I finished was cuz of you. Sorry I didn't win," he said before nuzzling his face in her neck, eliciting a giggle from the little girl.

She wrapped her arms around him.

"We couldn't be prouder," beamed his wife, Faith Sherry.

Live results and more information on the Internet at: www.marinemarathon.com/

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontzs@stripes.osd.mil

Cowboys put Glenn on injured reserve

The Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — Dallas Cowboys receiver Terry Glenn will miss the rest of the season after being placed on injured reserve Saturday because of a foot injury.

Glenn is the third Cowboys starter to be put on injured reserve this season, joining tight end Dan Campbell and cornerback Pete Hunter. Two rookies, offensive lineman Stephen Peterman and cornerback Bruce Thornton, are also on the season-ending list.

Glenn tore ligaments in his left foot in Sunday's 41-20 loss at Green Bay. Coach Bill Parcells initially said the injury as "pretty severe" and that Glenn, who had 24 catches for 400 yards, would miss at least two games.

With receiver Quincy Morgan hampered by a strained hamstring, the Cowboys signed receivers Patrick Crayton and Terrance Cooper from their practice squad.

Kenseth wins Aaron's 312

HAMPTON, Ga. — Nextel Cup regular Matt Kenseth held off Kyle Busch in a two-lap sprint to the finish, winning the Busch race at Atlanta Motor Speedway over the weekend.

Kenseth had quite a day. After his Busch victory, he went back on the track and won the final International Race of Champions event, clinching the IROC series championship.

Kenseth was leading the Aaron's 312 when a crash in turn two took out Reed Sorenson and Clint Bowyer with less than three laps to go.

The race was red-flagged while the wreckage was cleared. On the restart, Kenseth's Ford got a good jump and was able to hold off Busch's Chevrolet on the 1.54-mile trioval.

Ghostzapper is Frankel's first winner in Breeders' Cup Classic

GRAND PRAIRIE, Texas — Trainer Bobby Frankel finally broke through in the Breeders' Cup Classic with Ghostzapper, blazing to victory in America's richest race Saturday at Lone Star Park.

Frankel, who had just two wins with 62 Breeders' Cup starters before the \$4 million Classic, saddled the beaten favorite the past three years — Medaglia d'Oro in 2002-03 and Aptitude in 2001.

Years of frustration for Frankel ended with Ghostzapper's record run. Ridden by Javier Castellano, the 4-year-old colt sprung from the gate and was in control all the way around the track, winning by three lengths over Roses in May.

Winning time was 1:59.02, bettering the Classic mark of 1:59.16 set by Skip Away in 1997 at Hollywood Park.

The great mare Azeri finished a non-threatening fifth in a 13-horse field considered the deepest in the 21-year history of the Breeders' Cup. Defending champion Pleasantly Perfect was third, Belmont Stakes winner War Emblem was fourth, and Funny Cide, last year's Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner, was 10th.

Sports briefs

Dana College quarterback attempts 101 passes in game

HASTINGS, Neb. — Dana College's Tom Lensch set an all-division college record by attempting 101 passes in a 60-35 loss to Hastings College on Saturday. Lensch completed 56 passes for a school-record 507 yards. He threw for three touchdowns and was intercepted three times.

Lensch broke the NAIA record of 92 attempts by Paul Gray of Hanover, Ind., against Georgetown, Ky., in 1991.

The NCAA record is 82 attempts by Purdue's Drew Brees against Wisconsin in 1998. Dana, a school of 500 students in Blair, Neb., plays a spread offense that features as many as five wideouts.

Lensch had 110 offensive plays and finished with a school-record 563 yards.

Wizards advance to MLS Western Conference final

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Jack Jewsbury's goal in injury time gave Kansas City a 3-0 victory over the San Jose Earthquakes on Saturday night, sending the Wizards to the Western Conference final with a 3-2 victory in the home-and-home, total-goals series.

D.C. United and Los Angeles also advanced on Saturday.

Jaime Moreno and Bryan Namoff scored late in the second half to help D.C. United beat the MetroStars and advance to the Eastern Conference final.

Tim Lincecum and Tim Lincecum Marshall scored in the first half to help Los Angeles beat Colorado and advance to the Western Conference final.

Singh moves into lead in Chrysler Championship

PALM HARBOR, Fla. — Vijay Singh made a 36-foot birdie putt on the 17th hole Saturday to take the third-round lead in the Chrysler Championship, the PGA Tour's final full-field tournament of the year.

Singh recovered from two early bogeys for a 4-under 67 and led at 12-under 201, one shot better than runner-up Tiger Woods.

Jeff Sluman and Jonathan Byrd, the co-leaders through 36 holes, both crumbled on the back nine. Sluman shot a 74 and is five shots back, while Byrd had a 75.

Golden, Park tied in LPGA event

JEJU, South Korea — Kate Poulton beat Sergio Garcia with a 64 and moved into a tie for the lead with South Korean star Grace Park after two rounds of the CJ Nine Bridges Classic.

Poulter defeats Garcia on first playoff hole in Volvo Masters

SOTOGRADE, Spain — Ian Poulton beat Sergio Garcia with a par on the first hole of a sudden-death playoff to win the Volvo Masters at Valderrama on Sunday.

The two tied after 72 holes with 7-under-par totals of 277. Both shot final rounds of 1-under 70.

Pittman returns with renewed dedication

Suspension for domestic abuse sidelined back; Tampa has won two of three with him running

BY FRED GOODALL
The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Michael Pittman received his marching orders and did his best to comply. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers running back prepared for his return from a three-week suspension for violating the NFL's personal conduct policy by working out alone in shoulder pads and helmet, trying to simulate game conditions against imaginary defenses.

He sweated a lot, too, watching the Buccaneers (2-5) stumble to their worst record in eight years.

"I never got angry. I just got really anxious," Pittman said. "I promise you, every game I watched on TV I had to get up and take a shower."

That was the least quirky part of the seventh-year pro's routine during the ban for his involvement in a domestic violence incident with his wife. The NFL also suspended him for one game in 2001 in another domestic violence case while he was playing for the Arizona Cardinals.

Bucs coach Jon Gruden wanted Pittman to work out in full uniform during the most suspended suspension, hoping he would get accustomed to carrying the extra weight in the heat at kickoff time. To avoid drawing attention to himself, Pittman sometimes waited until it was dark outside to put on his pads and helmet to train in a park near his home. He returned to the lineup four games ago, and arguably has played the best football of his career.

"We had a lot of private conversations and challenged him to be the best man he can be and come back as the best player he can be, and I think he's done it," Gruden said. The coach added that he's convinced the 29-year-old running

"He [Pittman] paid a great price. He lost time on the field. He lost money. ... He's taken some shots, and rightfully so. But he paid the penalty and has been very, very good, I think. I say good for him. It's great to see a guy who gets it wrong get it right."

Jon Gruden
Tampa Bay coach

back has learned from past mistakes.

"He paid a great price. He lost time on the field. He lost money. ... He's taken some shots, and rightfully so. But he paid the penalty and has been very, very good, I think. I say good for him. It's great to see a guy who gets it wrong get it right."

Pittman's latest legal problems stemmed from a May 2003 arrest for ramming a vehicle as he was driving into a car occupied by his wife, young son and a babysitter. The NFL suspended him for the first three games of the regular season, plus an additional two paychecks — a penalty that cost

him \$441,175, or \$88,235 per game.

"I did what I had to do, and it's all over," Pittman said, adding that he and his wife are happy and have put the incident behind them.

Since returning to the Bucs, Pittman has rushed for 269 yards on 66 carries and caught 11 passes for 100 yards to spark an offense that sputtered while losing the first four games.

The Bucs, off this week, have won two of the past three, including last Sunday's 19-7 victory over Chicago.

Pittman rushed for a season-high 109 yards and scored a touchdown against the Bears. He had a 46-yard reception to set up a field goal and finished with 164 total yards, three less than the entire Chicago offense.

With Charlie Garner out for the season with a knee injury and Mike Alstott expected to miss a month with a sprained knee, Gruden plans to lean heavily on Pittman.

Just one team — the 1992 San Diego Chargers — has rebounded from an 0-4 record to make the playoffs and finish with a winning record.

The Bucs think they're capable of doing it, too.

Gruden believes Pittman, who rushed for 124 yards in Tampa Bay's Super Bowl victory over Oakland two years ago, is underrated.

"I think he's quietly had two back-to-back years where he's been in the top 10 or 12 in total offense in the NFC. I don't think people realize how good a player he really is," Gruden said, adding he thinks the 218-pound Pittman relishes the prospect of an increased workload.

"He's getting himself ready for



Tampa Bay's Michael Pittman drives past Chicago's Todd Johnson to score a touchdown in the Buccaneers' 19-7 victory over the Bears.

the physical grind, the punishment he's going to take. He's as well-conditioned a back as I've ever coached. He can catch a 48-yard ball out of the backfield and line up in a two-point stance in the I-formation the next play. Very few guys can do that."

One thing Pittman makes clear is he is not a savior.

The Bucs also have benefited from a quarterback change. First, Brad Johnson was benched for

Chris Simms, then former Denver starter Brian Griese got a chance to play when Simms hurt his shoulder.

Griese won one game in relief and is 1-1 as a starter, completing nearly 71 percent of his passes.

Gruden also is counting on getting a lift from receivers Joe Jurevicius and Joey Galloway, each limited to one game because of injuries.

Haslett cautions critics against giving up on Saints

BY MARY FOSTER
The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The New Orleans Saints limped into an off week hurt by big expectations, bad losses and rumblings of discontent from fans and the front office.

The heat was turned up when the Saints (3-4) bumbled through a three-game losing streak that included losses to Arizona and Tampa Bay — both winless before beating New Orleans. After the latter defeat, general manager Mickey Loomis issued a public warning.

"Ultimately, we all are judged by wins and losses," Loomis said. "If we can't work it out, then changes have to be made. And I'm not afraid to make them."

Loomis had not issued the warning to him directly, coach Jim Haslett said. Haslett questioned

the timing, because the team was then 2-3, but said he understood the message.

"When you're 2-3, people give you on up," Haslett said. "People forget about you. They forget it's a long season. A football team should be judged on what it does over 16 games, not five. I think it's unfair to judge guys and the coaching staff after five games."

After scoring only seven points in the opener, New Orleans has averaged 20 points a game. There have been critical breakdowns — 21 pregame penalties, six of their 12 fumbles lost, and trouble converting third downs (21 of 24, 28 percent). But the Saints converted 47 percent against the Oakland Raiders.

"We've gotten better at third down, which is a big plus for us," quarterback Aaron Brooks said. "We've been very consistent the

last couple of weeks in the red zone. We have not been turning the ball over. So we just must maintain that focus and mentality."

New Orleans' biggest problems are running the football and stopping opponents from running it.

The Saints have rushed for 611 yards and four touchdowns. Deuce McAllister, who missed two games with a sprained ankle, has 238 yards. The ankle is still bothering him, especially when he tries to cut. But that's not his only problem. He has also fumbled four times and lost three. This week he watched film of his rushes from last season, when he gained 1,641 yards. The difference in his play this year is only partially because of the ankle, Haslett said.

"That's where it started from," Haslett said. "And he's very con-

cerned about protecting the ball, which is fine. But he's a 238-pound guy, so that if he holds onto the ball with one hand he'll be just fine."

The Saints are 25th in the NFL in rushing and dead last in defense against it. New Orleans has averaged 93.2 yards a game on the ground and given up an average of 141.3. That includes allowing 35-year-old Emmitt Smith to run for 127 yards and Arizona to almost triple its per-game rushing average with 211 yards.

"We just have to keep working, keep teaching," defensive line coach John Pense said. "You can only do two things, get better players or get the players you have to play better."

Haslett made some changes on defense last week, adding speed at cornerback with Mike McKenzie and Fakhir Brown, and started Sedrick Hodge at linebacker.

Hodge missed the first four games because of a substance abuse suspension.

"We have got to have guys out there who are going to do it our way and be dependable," Haslett said. "We've got enough good football players, especially on the one side of the ball, so if we can just do what we're supposed to do, then we're going to be OK."

The Saints are two games out of first place in the NFC South. And the way the schedule works out, five of the last six games are against division rivals.

"I've said it before, Nov. 28 is when the games really start to be played," Haslett said. "You've got to be within striking distance or even. You'd like to be ahead when those games come."

"The games you've got to win are the Atlanta games, the Carolina games and Tampa. If you can win those games, then you're going to win your division."

Peterson carries Sooners to victory over Cowboys

Freshman running back rushes for 249 yards as Oklahoma holds on against Oklahoma St.

BY CLAYTON BELLAMY
The Associated Press

STILLWATER, Okla. — Oklahoma survived another dicey trip to Oklahoma State, and the difference this time was Adrian Peterson.

The star freshman rushed for 249 yards and Cowboys kicker Jason Ricks missed a 49-yard field goal with 11 seconds left, giving the second-ranked Sooners a 38-35 victory over their pesky rivals on Saturday.

Mark Bradley caught a career-high three TD passes for Oklahoma (8-0, 5-0, Big 12), which has won two straight over the Cowboys since losing Bedlam series games in 2001 and 2002 that knocked the Sooners out of the national title hunt.

"I reminded the guys that our 2000 national championship run team won 12-7 here and went on to claim it out," Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops said. "A lot of it sets up similarly here."

Peterson had an 80-yard touchdown run in the third quarter that put Oklahoma up 38-21 and a 56-yarder on his next carry that broke the school freshman rushing record of 1,184 yards set by De'Mond Parker in 1996.

Peterson now has eight consecutive 100-yard games and 1,272 yards this year.

He won the running back battle over the Cowboys' Vernand Morency, who had just 93 yards on 17 carries, breaking his streak of nine straight regular season games with at least 100 yards.

Peterson said he wasn't motivated to outdo Morency, the nation's third-leading rusher coming into the game.

"I was focused on going out there and getting the win, and helping my team running the ball," Peterson said.

But Morency also had two touchdowns in the second half, including a 4-yard rush on an option that pulled Oklahoma State within 38-35 with 10:34 left.

"I will take my football team and play anyone in this country," Oklahoma State coach Les Miles said. "I like this team. I like the fight in this ball club. I like the resolve."

No. 20 Oklahoma State (6-2, 3-2) took possession at its own 19 with 2:44 remaining. Donovan Woods' 17-yard completion to Morency and the quarterback's two 3-yard rushes put the Cowboys in Ricks' range.

But the freshman, whose

28-yard field goal with 55 seconds left beat Missouri last week, pushed his kick wide left and Oklahoma ran out the clock. Ricks is now 0-for-3 on kicks of more than 40 yards.

"I was not very nervous about the field goal," Sooners linebacker Rufus Alexander said.

"If they make it, we go into overtime and play defense. We just wanted to win so we could get out of here."

Bradley caught TD passes of 72, 23 and 4 yards — all in the first half as Sooners quarterback Jason White used the passing game to burn a defense focused on stopping Peterson.

Peterson got rolling in the second half after Woods' 39-yard TD pass to Prentiss Elliott pulled Oklahoma State to 28-21.

Peterson broke loose from his own 20, spinning through a tackle, bursting through the line and sprinting away from the pack to push the lead back to 14.

"It's tough to believe he's a freshman," Miles said.

The Sooners leaned heavily on Peterson in the second half. White completed only one pass after halftime. Peterson had 196 yards in the second half, and his rushing used time in the fourth



Oklahoma RB Adrian Peterson (28) breaks away for an 80-yard TD run during the third quarter, in Stillwater, Okla., on Saturday. Peterson, who has rushed for at least 100 yards in eight straight games, rushed for 249 yards in the Sooners' 38-35 victory over Oklahoma State.

quarter. White, the Heisman Trophy winner, finished 14-for-26 for 221 yards and three touchdowns.

The Sooners took a 21-14 half-time lead on White's 23-yard pass to Bradley, who was wide open in the corner of the end zone.

Bradley's 72-yard catch and run after he tipped the ball to him-

self on a crossing pattern pulled the Sooners even at 14. He also beat Cowboys safety Jon Holland for a 4-yard score in the first quarter for a 7-0 lead.

"They were dropping off in coverage, leaving the under routes wide open," White said.

"Bradley did a great job after he caught the ball," White said.

East Carolina ends Army win streak at two games

The Associated Press

GREENVILLE, N.C. — Bobby Good bounced back from two dropped passes in the first half to finish with a career day.

Good and James Pinkney hooked up on three touchdown passes to help East Carolina beat Army 38-28 Saturday, ending the Black Knights' first winning streak in seven years.

"I took my eyes off the ball," said Good, who set new personal bests with eight catches for 118 yards. "But I definitely was not going to let this affect the rest of my game. So I had to put it behind me and get ready for the second half."

Army (2-5, 2-4 Conference USA) snapped a 19-game losing streak earlier this month with a victory over Cincinnati, then beat South Florida before taking a weekend off. Last year, the Black Knights set an NCAA record for futility by losing all 13 games.

Army couldn't match it this time in a row. The Pirates (2-5, 2-3) piled up 42 yards and forced two clutch turnovers in the second half to bounce back from a 51-10 loss a week to No. 25 Southern Mississippi.

"You have to give credit to East Carolina, they came out and

Service academies

played well," Black Knights coach Bobby Ross said. "I was worried about that, to be very honest, because when you look at them on film, you can see they have some talent."

Pinkney finished 26-for-36 for 285 yards and made East Carolina coach John Thompson a winner for only the third time in 19 games.

The Pirates forced three turnovers, including interceptions by Zach Baker and Kyle Chalmers.

"I think we got to their quarterback a little bit," Thompson said. "I think we were 3-0 in turnovers. That's how you win. You win by stopping the run, running the football and winning the turnovers."

Army's Zac Dahman was 17-for-30 for 230 yards, but he was intercepted twice. D.J. Blackledge returned a kickoff 69 yards for a TD for the Black Knights early in the fourth quarter.

"We came out today and just didn't play the way we have to play to win," Ross said.

Carlton Jones had a 4-yard touchdown run in the third quarter to give the Black Knights their



Army RB Seth Gulsby, left, is stopped by East Carolina defenders, clockwise from top left, Dontre Brown, Dashaun Stephens and Michael MacDonagh, on Saturday in Greenville, N.C. East Carolina won 38-28, stopping Army's bid for its third straight victory.

final lead at 14-10, before Chris Johnson capped a 68-yard East Carolina drive by bulging in from the 5 to make it 17-14.

First-round cornerback Donald Whitehead then recovered an Army fumble near the end of the third quarter. Pinkney's second

TD to Good, this one a 19-yarder, made it 24-14.

"We were able to run the ball a little bit better today and open up the pass," East Carolina wide receiver Kevin Roush said.

"It just seemed like we were clicking on all cylinders."

Navy 34, Delaware 20: At Annapolis, Md., Aaron Polanco and Kyle Eckel combined to lead the Midshipmen (7-1) to a season-high 346 yards rushing in a victory over the Blue Hens.

Navy remained undefeated at home this season; their last home defeat came Nov. 1 to the Blue Hens. Navy hasn't been 7-1 since 1978.

Delaware (6-2) came into the game ranked No. 3 in Division I-AA and had a six-game winning streak snapped.

Polanco, the nation's top rushing quarterback, scored on runs of 22, 1 and 7 yards for the third three-touchdown game of his career.

He gained 64 yards on 15 carries and also threw a 6-yard scoring pass to Eric Roberts.

Eckel gained a season-high 143 yards on 23 carries, rushing for 100 yards for the 11th time in his career and third this season.

Wyoming 43, Air Force 26: At Laramie, Wyo., junior quarterback Corey Bramlett passed for two touchdowns and ran for 67 yards as the Cowboys (5-3) defeated the Falcons (3-5).

Wyoming ended a two-game losing streak and kept its chances for a bowl bid alive, while Air Force lost for the fourth time in five games.

Romp pads USC win streak to 17

Utes continue bid for BCS berth; Upsets claim Purdue, Minnesota

The Associated Press

PULLMAN, Wash. — Reggie Bush and LenDale White each scored two touchdowns and Dwayne Jarrett caught two TD passes from Matt Leinart as No. 1 Southern California routed Washington State 42-12 on Saturday for its 17th straight victory.

In rolling up 426 yards, USC (8-0, 5-0 Pac-10) extended its conference win streak to 12 games.

The Trojans held the Cougars (3-5, 1-4) to 156 yards, sucking quarterback Alex Brink five times, forcing seven fumbles and limiting the Cougars to minus-9 yards rushing.

No. 7 California 27, No. 20 Arizona 3: At Berkeley, Calif., J.J. Arrington ran for 188 yards and a score and California forced five turnovers in its second

straight shutout. Tim Mixon returned an interception 58 yards for a TD for the Golden Bears (6-1, 4-1 Pac-10), whose increasingly dominant defense held Sun Devils quarterback Andrew Walter without a TD pass while posting consecutive shutouts for the first time since 1968.

Cal freshman Robert Jordan caught seven passes for 116 yards and a touchdown in his second collegiate game, but Aaron Rodgers struggled to connect with his injury-plagued receiving corps.

Rodgers threw a touchdown pass on the Bears' first play, but was held to 165 yards passing. Walter passed for 238 yards for the Sun Devils (6-2, 3-2).

No. 8 Texas 31, Colorado 7: At Boulder, Colo., Vince Young got a couple of bad throws out of his system early and Texas rolled from there, getting 141 yards rushing from Cedric Benson.

Benson and Young ran for two TDs apiece, linebacker Aaron Harris and safety Michael Griffin combined to force two turnovers and the Longhorns (7-1, 4-1 Big 12) stayed in the running for a BCS bowl by winning their third straight since losing to Oklahoma.

Colorado (4-4, 1-4) struggled on offense. The Buffaloes managed only one first down in the first half and didn't make it past the 50 until the fourth quarter.

No. 9 Utah 51, San Diego State 28: At San Diego, Alex Smith threw a career-high five touchdown passes for undefeated Utah



USC linebacker Lofa Tatupu tackles Washington State quarterback Alex Brink during the first quarter of the No. 1 Trojans' 42-12 win Saturday.

(8-0, 4-0 Mountain West), which is attempting to become the BCS team from a non-BCS conference to participate in the Bowl Championship Series.

Utah moved up to No. 6 in the BCS standings last week, putting it in position for an automatic bid to one of the four marquee post-season games.

Smith was 22-for-33 for 298 yards, with no interceptions and gained 45 yards on 15 rushes. Pierre Warren had 10 catches for 113 yards and two TDs.

San Diego State (2-6, 0-4) lost its fifth straight game. The Aztecs remained winless in 14 games against top-10 opponents, and have lost 17 straight overall against ranked teams.

No. 11 Tennessee 43, South Carolina 29: At Columbia, S.C., Erik Angek threw three touchdown passes as Tennessee (7-1, 5-1 SEC) overcame early offensive problems to win its 12th straight over South Carolina (5-3, 3-3).

The Vols have beaten Georgia and only must get past league doormats Kentucky and Vanderbilt next month to earn the SEC East berth in the league title game against Auburn on Dec. 4.

No. 15 West Virginia 35, Rutgers 30: At Piscataway, N.J., Rasheed Marshall threw for two touchdowns and ran for one as the Mountaineers (7-1, 3-0 Big East) beat Rutgers (4-4, 1-3) for the 10th straight time. Ryan Hart threw three touchdown passes for Rutgers, which made the game interesting by scoring twice late.

It's party time after Tigers win SEC West

By JOEY MCCREARY

The Associated Press

OXFORD, Miss. — Jason Campbell and Auburn earned some rest.

After winning nine games in nine grueling weeks, the Tigers have something to celebrate — and some extra time to party.

Campbell rushed for two touchdowns and threw for one and No. 3 Auburn earned a spot in the Southeastern Conference championship game with a 35-14 victory over Mississippi on Saturday night.

"We were running on fumes; our players were pretty tired," Auburn coach Tommy Tuberville said. "They scraped enough to get us a win."

Especially Campbell. The league's most efficient quarterback was 11-for-22 for 234 yards and had two 1-yard touchdown runs for the Tigers (9-0, 6-0), who scored 28 points after halftime to lock up the SEC West title before their first off week of the season.

The Tigers have won or shared four of the past five division crowns, but are 0-2 in league championship games since the SEC split into divisions in 1992.

The Tigers have won or shared four of the past five division crowns, but are 0-2 in league championship games since the SEC split into divisions in 1992.

"To finish it up in nine games says a lot about this team," said Campbell, a Mississippi native.

Florida beat the Tigers 28-6 in their most recent SEC title game appearance in 2000, when Campbell and some current Auburn seniors were freshmen.

"We would get to the end of the season and have the opportunity to go to Atlanta, and something just wouldn't work out," Campbell said.

This time, Auburn will play either No. 10 Georgia or No. 11 Tennessee in the league title game in Atlanta. More importantly, the Tigers can look forward to a perfect season and national title.

The Tigers are off next week before hosting Georgia and playing at Alabama. The SEC championship game is Dec. 4.

"We won't think about the BCS," Tuberville said. "Georgia and Alabama are enough to think about."

Tuberville hasn't lost in three games as a visitor to Oxford. He coached Ole Miss for four years before moving to Auburn in 1998.

Ronnie Brown ran for 100 yards and a touchdown as Carnell Williams had 96 yards rushing and a 29-yard TD run.

Campbell's 1-yard sneak with 26 seconds left in the first half gave Auburn a 7-0 lead. His second short TD run early in the fourth quarter restored the Tigers' 14-point lead.

Don't Shortchange Your Body

The performance comes with the CoolMax® & Lycra Advantage! Specially Designed for Military Personnel! CoolMax® Teeshirts, Socks & Underwear. www.sweetitout.com

NFL Challenge
CABE4U
Week 9 Pick Deadline:
12 noon, U.S. Central Time
Sunday, November 7

You know how to play the game, but do you know how to win?

Play the NFL Challenge at www.strips.com or www.oconus.com for your chance to win cash!

As a BONUS PRIZE, the top winner each week will receive \$100 toward merchandise at TeamStore.com

TEAMSTORE.COM

Log in every week during the 2004 NFL season and make your picks for the winners of upcoming NFL games. Earn points for every winning pick. At the end of the season, you may find yourself the winner. * Enter the "Secret code" above and DOUBLE your point total for the week.

* Certain rules and restrictions apply. See the official rules at www.oconus.com and www.strips.com. There is no cost to participate, but you must register to play.

Sponsored by

STARS AND STRIPES

OCONUS

Wolverines rally past Spartans in triple OT

No. 12 Michigan erases 17-point deficit in 4th, seizes Big Ten lead

BY LARRY LAGE

The Associated Press

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Brayton Edwards experienced a joy millions of NFL dollars couldn't buy.

Edwards caught two touchdown passes to help Michigan erase a 17-point, fourth-quarter deficit in just 5:44, and grabbed a third TD in triple overtime to lift the Wolverines to a 45-37 victory over Michigan State on Saturday.

"This is why I came back," said Edwards, who chose to be a Michigan senior rather than an NFL rookie this year. "To be honest, I've never felt like this after a game."

The Spartans have probably never felt Michigan Stadium — where they haven't won since 1990 — more devastated.

"It was a game I feel we could have won and should have won," Michigan State coach John L. Smith said. "I'm just sick."

With the thrilling comeback, No. 12 Michigan (8-1, 6-0 Big Ten) moved a half-game ahead of idle Wisconsin in the conference and kept its hopes alive for a Bowl Championship Series bid.

"It was one of the greatest games I've ever been in," Michigan coach Lloyd Carr said. "It's unfortunate somebody has to lose."

"We're still in the race. We still have a chance to do something."

The Spartans (4-4, 3-2) had a great chance to pull off an upset, but could not handle the 27-10-0 record.

The Spartans were without their stand-out quarterback, Drew Stanton, after he separated his right shoulder late in the first half.

After accounting for 80 yards rushing and a TD and 95 yards passing, Stanton was relegated to watching the lead he helped build slip away.

"That was real hard," said Stanton, who



DETROIT FREE PRESS/KRT

Michigan's Brayton Edwards makes the tying touchdown catch in regulation in front of Michigan State's Jaren Hayes. The Wolverines went on to win 45-37 in three overtimes.

is expected to miss at least a couple of games with a separated shoulder. "I can't even try to explain it."

Smith was asked to explain why he left Jaren Hayes in one-on-one coverage on both of Edwards' TDs in regulation.

"Our kid was there to make a play. He just went up a foot higher," Smith said. "I'm not going to pound on my kid for that. The other guy is just a great athlete."

Edwards caught 11 passes for 189 yards

— breaking Anthony Carter's school record for career yards receiving.

"Brayton Edwards made plays that I don't think anybody else can make," Carr said.

Freshman Chad Henne was 24-for-35 for 273 yards with four TDs.

Michael Hart had 33 carries for 224 yards — his third straight 200-yard game — and a TD, but bumped off the field with a bruised thigh during the first overtime.

Michigan State's DeAndre Cobb scored on a 72-yard run early in the first quarter and again on 64-yard run to put the Spartans ahead 27-10 midway through the fourth quarter. Cobb finished with 205 yards on 22 carries.

Damon Dowdell, who replaced Stanton, was 8-for-13 for 72 yards.

The Spartans had a chance to win the game in regulation — after pass interference was called with no time left — but Dave Rayner's 50-yard kick into a stiff wind was short.

After both teams kicked field goals in the first overtime, Michigan State's Jason Teague scored on a 3-yard run and Michigan answered with a 5-yard pass to a leaping Jason Avant in the back corner of the end zone.

Following Edwards' third TD, the Spartans gained just 2 yards and the game ended with an incomplete pass to the end zone.

Michigan State started strong and had its way against the Wolverines for the most part before collapsing late in regulation.

The Spartans gained 535 yards, including 368 on the ground against the nation's third-ranked rushing defense.

After Cobb's second TD, Michigan stalled at Michigan State's 7 and had to settle for a field goal.

When Michigan's Brian Thompson recovered an onside kick, a comeback seemed possible.

"I don't think there was a bigger play," Carr said.

Two plays later, Henne heaved a pass to the end zone and Edwards snatched it away from Hayes to pull the Wolverines within a TD. On the second play of Michigan's next drive, Henne lobbed a 21-yard pass to the end zone and Edwards out-jumped Hayes for it to tie the game at 27 with 2:59 to go.

After the comeback was complete, Michigan had its 12th straight home win, dating to its loss against Iowa on Oct. 4, 2003.

The game was nothing like the previous six in the rivalry at Michigan Stadium.

Michigan had these matchups by an average of more than three touchdowns, including a 49-3 run two years ago that led to the firing of Spartans coach Bobby Williams and the hiring of Smith.

Baylor stuns A&M with 2-point conversion

BY JOEL ANDERSON

The Associated Press

WACO, Texas — Baylor coach Waco's Gary Patterson gathered his players around him, took a look at his weary bunch and said, "This is the only decision that made sense to him."

The Bears had to end the game, win or lose, with a 2-point conversion.

"I had a gut feeling that it was right thing to do at that point to drive the nail in the coffin," Morriss said. "We wanted to teach our kids how to drop the hammer on someone."

Did they ever.

Shawn Bell found Dominique Zeigler in the end zone for the winning score a play after they connected on a 12-yard touchdown pass, lifting Baylor to a 35-34 overtime victory over No. 16 Texas A&M on Saturday night.

After Texas A&M's Keith Joseph scored on a 16-yard touchdown run on the first possession of overtime, Bell and Zeigler led the Bears (3-5, 1-4 Big 12) to the

stunning finish.

Bell completed a pass for no gain on the Bears' first play. Anthony Krieg rushed for 13 yards on second down and then Bell rolled to his right before finding Zeigler just inside the goal line.

Morriss boldly decided to go for the 2-point conversion, hoping to catch the Aggies (6-2, 4-1) by surprise.

The call stunned even Zeigler, who missed the huddle because he was getting treated for leg cramps on the bench.

"I didn't even know we were going for 2," he said. "All of a sudden they said, 'Get in Ziggy. We're going for 2.'"

It worked to perfection.

Baylor ran the same play again, with Bell scrambling to his right looking for anyone in a green jersey. He zipped a pass to Zeigler just in front of A&M defensive back Melvin Bullitt for the score, setting off a wild celebration at a school that's had few things to party about in recent years.

Gold and green-clad students stormed the field, quickly taking

down the goal posts in the south end zone and carrying them up and out of Floyd Casey Stadium. Loud music blared over the stadium speakers — oddly fitting at a Baptist university that didn't allow dances on campus until eight years ago — and a mosh pit formed on the field.

"Beating A&M was very sweet," Baylor linebacker Justin Crooks said. "I can't describe how we feel. We can hardly believe it."

Said Bell: "I've never met anyone who said they beat A&M the last time."

A&M players and fans watched the improbable scene in utter disbelief: The Aggies had won the last 13 games against their over-matched rival, including a 73-10 rout at College Station last year.

"The coach had been telling them all week ... to remember last season," A&M quarterback Reggie McNeal said. "I knew they were going to come out this week and play their best games."

Baylor also ended an 11-game skid in the Big 12 and beat a ranked opponent for the first time

since 1998, a 33-30 victory over 20th-ranked North Carolina State. The Bears are 38-143-5 against Top 25 teams.

This was an especially sweet night for Baylor after allowing a touchdown in the final minutes of a 26-25 loss to Iowa State last week. Not to mention the years of futility against Texas A&M and nearly every other team in the Big 12 since the league formed in 1996.

With the win, Baylor improved to 6-6 in Big 12 play.

Playing in relief of injured starter Dane King, Bell came through with a remarkable performance in his first start since the final two games of last season.

The sophomore completed 32 of 50 passes for 262 yards and four touchdowns, two to Zeigler, who caught 12 passes for 121 yards.

The loss takes much of the steam out of the Aggies' matchup with No. 2 Oklahoma in College Station next Saturday. It would have been a showdown of unbeaten teams in the Big 12 South.

Not anymore. Baylor put an



WACO TRIBUNE-HERALD/AP

Texas A&M defensive back Melvin Bullitt (18) reacts after Baylor defeated No. 16 Texas A&M 35-34 in overtime.

end to all the Aggies' big plans. McNeal committed his first two turnovers of the season in the loss, throwing an interception and losing a fumble. He had been the only starting quarterback in Division I-A without an interception thrown this season.

Terrapins haul down Seminoles

No. 5 Florida St. falls to Maryland for first time ever

BY DAVID GINSBURG

The Associated Press

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Fifth-ranked Florida State was in the process of completing another comeback on the road, and Maryland coach Ralph Friedgen could think of only one course of action.

"I was praying hard," he said. "Our kids played with so much heart, it would have been a shame to lose this game."

The Terrapins held on, and thousands among the sellout crowd of 52,203 charged onto the field Saturday night immediately after the highly improbable 20-17 upset.

Florida State (6-2, 4-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) came in with a six-game winning streak and a perfect 14-0 record against Maryland (4-4, 2-3), which had scored a total of 17 points in losing three straight conference games.

But the Terrapins got 333 passing yards from quarterback James Bowen, and running back Joel Statham and a solid performance from the defense in defeating a top 10 team for the first time since 1990.

"Nothing lasts forever. You get 14 wins in a row, and it happens when you least expect it," Seminoles coach Bobby Bowden said.

Florida trailed 20-10 before Bowen summoned former starting quarterback Chris Rix at the start of the fourth quarter.

On his second series, Rix moved FSU to the 35 before a field goal attempt by Xavier Beitia hit the left crossbar.

On his next drive, Rix threw his first touchdown pass of the season, a 16-yarder to Chauncey Storall with 7:43 remaining that made it 20-17.

After a Maryland punt, Rix got the Seminoles in position for another field goal attempt by Beitia, who was wide left on 45-yard field goal try to 4:45 to go — his third miss of the game.



Florida State wide receiver Dominic Robinson, right, makes a catch as Maryland free safety Ray Custis defends in the fourth quarter Saturday.

"We missed enough field goals to win it," Bowden said. "They made the big plays and we didn't. That was the difference."

Rix got one final chance two minutes later, but his fourth-down pass from the FSU 27 soared over the head of LSU Sam with 1:38 to go.

At game's end, Terrapins fans rushed the field and embraced the players — but spared the police officers, which were guarded by police officers.

"To beat the No. 5 team in the nation should be a benchmark for this program," Friedgen said. "I think we can make tremendous strides from this win."

Maryland had never come closer than 14 points against the Seminoles, and it seemed unlikely that the pattern would change during a season in which Statham has struggled enough to put his starting job in jeopardy.

But the sophomore repeatedly

pierced the nation's eighth-ranked defense with slant patterns and screen passes, finding seven different receivers in going 21-for-40 with one interception. He threw for one score and ran for another in finally solidifying his stature as the starting quarterback.

"It was just a matter of time before I got my stuff down and played smarter than I have been," Statham said.

Florida State starting quarterback Wyatt Sexton went 14-for-30 for 164 yards and two interceptions, and halfback Lorenzo Booker was limited to 51 yards on 13 carries.

Booker played in place of Leon Washington, who has a separated right shoulder. Washington ranks third in the ACC with 689 yards rushing and leads the Seminoles with six touchdowns.

"If we had Leon," Bowden said, "we'd have played a little bit different."

Greene, Georgia get long-awaited victory at Florida's Swamp

BY MARK LONG

The Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — David Greene begged for the football game to end.

After much pleading with a referee, he got it. And even after hugging teammates and doling out high-fives with fans, he was clutching it as he left Alltel Stadium on Saturday.

He really wanted a souvenir from this one.

Who could blame him? This was his last game against Florida — and his first victory.

Greene threw three touchdown passes, including a big one in the fourth quarter, and No. 10 Georgia snapped a six-game losing streak against the Gators, 31-24.

"We wanted this game so bad," Greene said. "It's my senior year, and I knew this was the last time I was ever going to play a game on this stage."

Greene tied Eric Zeier's school record with 67 touchdown passes and matched Peyton Manning for the most victories (39) by a starting quarterback in NCAA Division I-A.

More importantly, Greene helped Georgia end years of frustration at the World's Largest Outdoor Cocktail Party. Florida had won 13 of the last 14 in the series.

"I'm glad our fans can come back here and not have to listen to Florida fans running their mouths anymore," defensive end David Pollack said.

The Bulldogs (7-1, 5-1 Southeastern Conference) scored touchdowns on their first three possessions — eliminating whatever emotional edge the Gators may have had from the firing of coach Ron Zook this week.

"It was very unsettling. I didn't know how the team would take it," Zook said. "It was an emotional week. But I am proud of them for hanging in there. We just did too little, too late."

Georgia controlled the first half and led 24-7 early in the third when Florida (4-4, 2-4) seized momentum with two huge plays.

Chris Leak hooked up with Andre Caldwell for a 57-yard score.

Then Clintrick Fason ran 38 yards to set up Billy Latso's 3-yard touchdown reception, which cut the lead to 24-21 with about 12 minutes to go.

Greene then ended any chance of Florida finishing the comeback.

He scrambled around on the ensuing play and threw a perfect pass to Reggie Brown for a 51-yard gain. Five plays later, on third-and-9 from the 15, he found Fred Gibson for his record-tying touchdown.

Although Matt Leach kicked a 52-yard field goal to give the Gators another chance, Georgia running backs Danny Ware and Thomas Brown picked up enough yardage after a failed onside kick to seal the victory.

Then the celebration began — starting with Greene pleading for the ball.

Players hugged and danced at midfield, then took the party to the sideline. Greene was one of the last ones to leave, spending extra time frolicking with fans while gripping the game ball.

"I'm hanging onto that ball," he said. "I'll put it in my room somewhere."

Maybe not. Coach Mark Richt said Greene might have to return it because of NCAA rules.

Still, the issue did little to spoil Georgia's mood.

"It's been a long time coming," Richt said. "A lot of people have been through a lot of pain and suffering, and they finally get to enjoy it."

The last time the Bulldogs beat Florida was in 1997 behind seniors Mike Bobo, Robert Edwards and Hines Ward.

Coincidentally, three seniors did much of the damage Saturday.

Greene finished 15-for-23 for 255 yards and no interceptions. Gibson caught five passes for 59 yards and Pollack had two sacks.

Heels: UNC's Scott wears Miami out

HEELS, FROM BACK PAGE

Berlin was 20-for-35 for 338 yards and two touchdowns, but the Hurricanes had only 77 yards rushing, the first time all season they've failed to reach 100.

"My hat's off to North Carolina," Coker said. "They outplayed us overall and deserved to win the football game. We win as a team and lose as a team, and that's the case for us tonight."

Coker's team showed signs of faltering in recent weeks, despite winning its first six games for the fourth straight season. In the previous two games, the Hurricanes allowed a total of 947 yards in victories over Louisville and North Carolina State, and the Tar Heels also took advantage.

They took the opening kickoff

and drove 57 yards in only four plays to take a 7-0 lead on Durant's 35-yard scoring toss to Mike Mason. In the first half alone, North Carolina had 351 yards of total offense.

"There's no rhyme or reason," Miami cornerback Antrel Rolle said. "It's just a gut check. They wanted it more than we did. There's nothing really technical to it."

Scott consistently found openings in the defense, and about the only thing that slowed him down was a hip pointer he suffered late in the third quarter. He walked gingerly to the locker room, but jogged back to the sideline about 15 minutes later to a loud cheer from the soldout crowd.

On the first carry of his return, he ran 5 yards on second-and-4,

then capped off that drive by bulging 9 yards into the end zone to make it 28-21 early in the fourth.

"I can't say enough about Chad Scott," North Carolina coach John Bunting said. "Anytime you can say about the offensive line and what they did?"

Berlin, who had 11 touchdown passes in the past three games, started fast again, going 7-for-9 for 131 yards and two TDs in the first quarter. But the Hurricanes abandoned the passing game and tried to establish the run, a tactic that didn't work. Tyrone Moss led the ground game with 30 yards on eight carries, and leading rusher Frank Gore had only 27.

"It was a very gratifying win and it was nice to see they did not get 100 yards rushing," Bunting said. "When is the last time that happened, 100 years ago or so?"



North Carolina's Chad Scott (6) breaks through Miami's Anthony Redick (26) and Leon Williams, back, for a 9-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter. Scott had 175 yards rushing and two touchdowns.

SPORTS



Bucs' Pittman rededicated to football since returning from suspension, Page 25

Miami's Achilles' Heels

North Carolina stunner cripples 4th-ranked Canes' title hopes

BY KEITH PARSONS
The Associated Press

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — When it mattered most, when Miami needed one defensive stand to force overtime, the Hurricanes simply couldn't do it. That fact, perhaps as much as a loss that might have taken them out of the national title race, clearly irked coach Larry Coker.

"It's mind boggling," he said.

Connor Barth booted a 42-yard field goal on the final play of the game, giving North Carolina a shocking 31-28 upset of the fourth-ranked Hurricanes on Saturday night.

Miami was one of seven unbeaten teams at the start of the day. "We never even talked about a national championship," Coker said. "What we did talk about is beating North Carolina. That didn't happen."

When Miami called a timeout just before the kick, fans began lining the hedges just outside the sidelines in preparation for the celebration. The ball flew just inside the left upright, and soon the field was covered with people, celebrating North Carolina's first win over a top five opponent. Both goal posts went down.

"It's the best feeling in the world," Barth said. "I've never made a game-winner like that. That was the first one ever, and what a game to do it in."

Darian Durant led the Tar Heels (4-4, 3-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) on a 65-yard drive for the winning points, completing all four passes and getting the final 5 yards on a keeper up the middle. He finished 21-for-29 for 266 yards and two touchdowns, and Chad Scott overcame an injured hip to rush for a career-high 175 yards.

"It just goes to show that anybody can be beaten on any given day, especially in this conference," Durant said.

Miami (6-1, 3-1) trailed by seven points with 5:24 left, but Brock Berlin drove his team 89 yards to tie it. Devin Hester went in on a sweep from the 11, setting up the final possession for Durant and North Carolina.

SEE HEELS ON PAGE 31



North Carolina's Scott Brunett (97) runs past Miami players Greg Threat (5) and Tavaras Gooden (52) for a 18-yard touchdown in the second quarter in Chapel Hill, N.C., Saturday. The Tar Heels beat Miami 31-28 in the school's first victory over a top-five team. The loss will likely be enough to keep the fourth-ranked Hurricanes from contending for a national title.



Wolverines claw back from 17 down late in game to upend rival Spartans in third OT

Page 30



For first time, top women's finisher in Marine Corps Marathon is one of the Corps' own

Page 24



Peterson carries No. 2 Oklahoma past nemesis Oklahoma State

Page 26